27g 1953 Alabama

Lynching Reported

8543

Freed

27g Ala

"THE GOOD LORD kept the bullets from hitting me," said Henry Lee Brown last week describing his miraculous escape from a near lynching near Mobile, Ala., in January. Brown recently acquitted by an all-white jury for the Dec. 17 slaying of a white woman, escaped from three carloads of sheriff's deputies who stopped while en route to Kilby prison in Montgomery and surrendered later.

Youth Who Fled Lynch Mob Freed

27g

MOBILE, Ala. — A 17-year-old youth who miracously escaped bullets from sheriff's deputies who were escorting him to Kilby state prison for "safe-keeping," was found not guilty here by an all-white jury last week in the Dec. 17 slaying of a white woman.

The jury took four hours to render a not guilty verdict in the case of Henry Lee Brown. The youth said afterwards that he "will never live" in Satsuma, scene of the shooting, again. He said he plans to "go north and live with some of my people."

"The Good Lord kept the sheriff's men's bullets from hitting me," said Brown with emotion in his voice as he described his miraculous escape following his acquittal in Mobile County Circuit Court.

Took Off Handcuffs

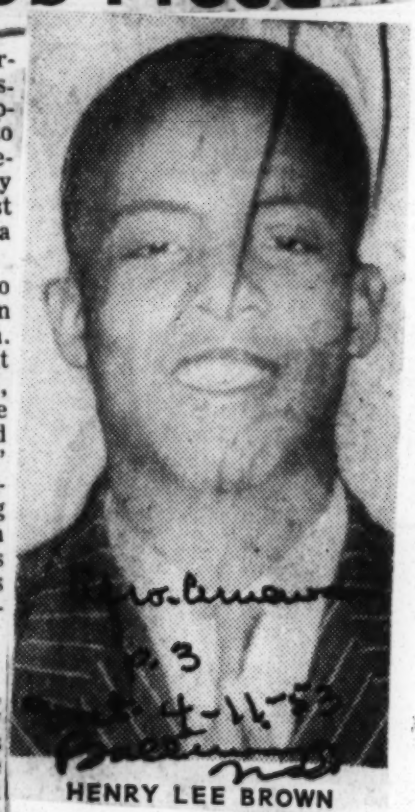
"The cars stopped," he said, describing the night of January 17. "They took the handcuffs off me, and one man left me on the back seat and walked over to the car in front and was whispering and looking back and pointing at me.

"My mind told me they were getting ready to lynch me. Then I said to myself, 'If I expect to live, I'd better make a run for it.'

"I opened the door, jumped and ran across the highway and into the swamps, side-stepping and swaying and zigzagging as I ran. Even as I crossed the highway, they started shooting at me."

Brown gave up after eluding law enforcement officers 29 hours in the dense swamp lands of Satsuma and Creola.

The youth was later taken on to Kilby prison where he remained, except for periodic trips to Mobile for court appearances, until the date of his trial and acquittal, March 26.



HENRY LEE BROWN

8544

Highway Cop Halts Lynching Of Ranch Hand

Sheriff, Posse Had Rope Around Victim's Neck

By SAM LACY
AFRO Staff Correspondent

PHOENIX, Ariz. — A governor's investigation of the near lynching of a colored murder suspect was under way this week, and officials of two law-enforcement agencies were reportedly at odds over the incident.

Governor Howard Pyle has pledged "an all - out probe" of charges by a state highway patrolman that his timely intervention was the only thing that saved Arthur Thomas, a migrant cotton worker, from death by the noose.

The lynching, the state trooper alleges, was about to be perpetrated by a posse headed by Sheriff Jack Howard of Cochise County.

Justice Promised

Reached by telephone at his home Sunday morning, the governor told the AFRO:

"My promise to the people of Arizona, made Friday, still goes. Every effort will be made to uncover all the facts in this case, with the assurance that justice will be done and proper punishment meted out to anyone found guilty of a wrongdoing."

On Sunday also, Gerald Norris, agent in charge of the FBI at Tucson, revealed that his office likewise is seeking to determine whether a federal law has been violated.

The FBI entered the case on receipt of complaint from Dorsey J. Watsong, legal advisor of the Tucson branch of the NAACP, that civil rights laws had been violated.

Sought For Murder

According to the story, Thomas, a 29-year-old ranch worker from Conroy, Texas, and Ross Lee Cooper, 17, were being hunted Thursday night in connection with the murder of Mrs. Janie G. Miskovichg, proprietor of a grocery story near Willcox, Ariz., located approximately 80 miles south of here.

The body of the murdered woman was found, beaten, stabbed and wrapped in a mattress to which fire had been set.

The search, being conducted by Sheriff Howard and his posse, was rewarded with the discovery of Thomas hiding in a clump of mesquite a half mile from the store.

Highway Patrolman Harry Selchow, who had been called into the hunt, reportedly reached the scene shortly after Thomas had been apprehended.

It was he who reputedly saved the life of Thomas.

Rope Around Neck

Selchow told superintendent Greg Hathaway, his superior officer, that when he arrived on the scene of Thomas' capture, an unidentified cowpuncher had a rope around the neck of the suspect and was dragging him toward a tree, yelling, "Let's lynch him!"

The state trooper said he grabbed the rope and ordered the rancher to slacken it, declaring:

"This is no way to handle this!"

Both the would-be hangman and Sheriff Howard ignored him, Selchow further stated.

Howard in the meantine, according to Selchow, was busy threatening Thomas, repeating over and over: "Are you going to confess, or do we have to hang you?"

Following Selchow's revelation of Howard's part in the affair, the latter charged, in effect, that the state trooper had lied.

Mob Unidentified

He insisted that he was the one who had eased the tension and spared Thomas' life at the hands of the ranchers, none of whom up to Sunday had been identified.

County attorney Wesley Polley stated Saturday that Thomas had signed a confession which, he said, was "obtained without duress."

A charge of murder while committing a robbery has been lodged against Thomas.

At the same time, juvenile authorities released young Cooper and plan to use him as a material witness against the suspect.

Sheriff Saved Me— Near-Lynch Victim

BIZBEE, Ariz. — The 29-year-old victim of last week's near-lynching, has failed to back up a state highway patrolman who said he was intimidated into confessing the murder of a white woman by a sheriff's posse, headed by the sheriff himself.

The suspect, Arthur Thomas, told the AFRO and the NAACP here Monday, that the sheriff, one Jack Howard, had saved him from the hanging, and that he did not, as the state trooper charged, take part in the threatened lynching.

Says Sheriff Saved Him

Thomas, still wearing the burns which the rope had raised on his neck, told his interviewers in his jail cell here, "M. Howard saved my life, I reckon. He really did."

Thomas and 17-year-old Ross Le Cooper were taken into custody last Thursday night by the posse, which had been hunting them in connection with the slaying of Mrs. Janie G. Miskovich, proprietor of a small Willcox, Ariz., grocery near here.

Patrolman's Report

The older man was found hiding near the scene of the crime, and, immediately upon apprehension, was bound and dragged by the neck to a tree where shouts of "Let's lynch him" were being uttered as State Trooper Harry Selchow arrived on the scene.

In his report to Superintendent Ray Hathaway of the highway patrol., Selchow stated that when he reached the scene, Howard was standing before the victim demanding to know, "Do we have to hang you before you confess?"

Selchow reported that he sought to intervene but that neither the sheriff nor the rancher who held the rope, would heed his protests.

Not Too Clear On It

Questioned about Selchow's version of the affair, the obviously frightened Thomas would not say the trooper had lied.

"I ain't too clear on it, I reckon," he said. "But Mr. Howard sure saved my life. He stopped 'em, that man that was pulling on the rope and all those others that were yelling. They would sure enough have killed me if it hadn't been for Mr. Howard."

H. B. Daniels, of Phoenix, Maricopa County chairman of the NAACP legal staff, visited Thomas accompanied by the AFRO.

Sheriff Was Present At Talk

"It is not our aim to try to fix the innocence or guilt of this man," asserted Daniels. "We are primarily interested in determining whether his civil right have been violated."

Previously, W. Edward Morgan, of the Tucson NAACP branch, had talked with Thomas. At that time, however, it was said that the suspected was prompted in most of his answers by Sheriff Howard who also was present.

8547

Sheriff moves to avert violence

Cautions patience in row over race housing project

SHREVEPORT, La. (ANP) — A fighting sheriff of Caddo parish, J. Howell Flournoy, warned the white populace of Floral Heights community last week against taking the law into their own hands in connection with the present development of Clark Terrace for colored tenancy.

The sheriff attended a meeting of the Floral Heights Civic club, one of the groups of white residents opposing the development of the Broadmore site for Clarke Terrace, which is located directly east of Floral Heights in an area just outside the southwestern rim of the city limits.

The sheriff cautioned the residents to be patient and to avoid any action which might cause racial disturbances, and to give officials, studying the controversial issue, time to see if they can solve the situation.

Will Preserve Law

"If you're going to settle the law in your own way, then you don't need me as sheriff or a sheriff's department. We have to preserve the law and I intend to enforce the law regardless of the consequences," he stated.

In declaring himself on the situation, the sheriff said that he was opposed to any project that might disturb racial relations in the parish, and he said further that he believes that disturbances "would be the thing that would happen if this thing (Clark Terrace) goes through."

The sheriff, however, emphasized that "the colored citizen is not to be blamed for what has happened." He said that he had been told by "several parties" that not one colored person was present when the site for Clark Terrace was chosen.

8545

Victim in robbery, assault case dies

Murder indictment asked for suspect mob periled

TRENTON—Prosecutor Mario H. Volpe asked the Mercer county grand jury Tuesday, Aug. 25, to return a murder indictment against Theodore Walker, 22, of 1001 Southard st.

Police charged that, a little more than 24 hours after Walker, a parolee, was released from jail Aug. 18 for a traffic violation, he brutally stabbed a white female store properietor during a futile holdup which she resisted.

The proprietor, Mrs. Mollie Schlesinger, 43, died from multiple wounds inflicted with a 10-inch butcher knife and shock in St. Francis Hospital 32 hours after the attack.

Periled By Mob

Walker had previously pleaded guilty to charges of armed robbery and assault with a deadly weapon and was held without bail.

The holdup and assault took place in the Uniform Shop, 27 N. Montgomery st., in the downtown area at 11:45 a.m.

The suspect was captured by Traffic Policeman Dennis Furman who pursued him for five blocks in a wild chase that ended in the Coalport Tavern.

An angry mob of spectators who followed the chase during the busy lunch hour was deterred from molesting Walker through the quick thinking of Lt. Haywood and Det. Frank Hutchinson.

Left Money Behind

Howard R. Miller, 53, a mailman, told police he grappled with the suspect as he fled from the store but lost his hold on him.

He said he saw Walker drop $25 in bills in the doorway of the shop, which police said was taken from the cash register.

The victim's purse in which there were a few coins was recovered.

Used Wife's Car

After his arrest, Walker allegedly told police that he staged the holdup because he needed money to maintain an expensive car.

The next day, police found a 1952 red Pontiac convertible that Walker had parked facing North Stockton st. when he left it on East Hanover st.

Det. Anthony Haywood said that he could not get back to the car because of the race he lost to the law.

The car is registered in the name of the suspect's wife, Mrs. Doria Walker who did not know of the holdup and assault until that night when she went to a liquor store on Calhoun st. to pay her rent to the proprietor.

Criminal Record Told

Police cited Walker's record as follows:

He was sent to Annandale Reformatory April 17, 1949, for his his conviction for armed robbery in Atlantic City.

He was released April 17, 1951 on parole until 1957 to Atlantic Cit.

He came here last July 10, but did not register as a criminal until Aug. 7.

Drove Car Illegally

Walker was taken into custody Aug. 14 for driving an automobile without a license and sent to jail by Parole Officer William Reid. The car was his wife's red Pontiac.

It is unlawful for a parolee to drive a car unless his work requires such transportation.

Walker was released from Mercer County jail at 10:20 a.m. Monday, Aug. 17, and at 11:45 a.m. the next day he held up the Uniform Shop.

A parole officer's investigation showed that the suspect had worked as a laborer on a construction job on Princeton ave., but not in recent weeks.

27g 1953

New York

Lynching Prevented

8546

Mob Clubs and Claws New Yorker Who Killed His Wife at Ball Game

Mounted Officers Ride Into Crowd

From Wire Dispatches

New York, May 24.—Several hundred persons, watching a baseball game in Central Park, were transformed into a vengeful frenzied mob for a few minutes this afternoon when a man fatally stabbed his estranged common-law wife in full view of the throng.

The slayer was clubbed with baseball bats, pummeled with fists, and clawed with fingernails.

Hair Torn From His Head

Two mounted policemen rode their horses through the crowd. They found the man, beaten into insensibility, lying alongside the woman he had killed.

Nearby, mute evidence of the fury of the revenge-bent attackers, was a fistful of black hair torn from the man's head.

There was no inkling of the tragedy that impended as two teams of the Spanish Catholic League played the second inning of their game on a Park Department ball field almost in the center of the park opposite 97th street.

The skies were cloudless and serene. The summerlike day was perfect for baseball, to play and to watch.

Sister Beside Her

It was 4:40 p.m. Back of the baseline at first base with a cluster of friends was Mrs. Carmella Olivo, 32-year-old-widow, mother of a 10-year-old boy. With her was her sister, Mrs. Virginia [illegible].

Then Edward Cartagena, 42, came through [illegible] dashed at Carmella with a red-handled kitchen knife, stabbing her in the chest, neck, and shoulders.

Carmella tried to get away, but Cartagena caught her at the diamond's backstop and killed her, police said.

The game broke up. Players grabbed bats and swung them at Cartagena.

An instant later he was overwhelmed by participants and spectators.

Umpires Struggle With Crowd

Umpires Ernest Barbosa and Sam Ustin struggled to keep the enraged crowd from tearing the man apart until the police galloped to the scene.

Police said the umpire's quick action and the mounted charge saved Cartagena's life.

He was taken unconscious to a hospital. Doctors had feared he suffered a fractured skull, but he proved to have only extensive head cuts and bruises.

Police said Cartagena had lived with Mrs. Olivo for three years before she left him about five months ago. When she spurned a reconciliation last Thursday, he threatened to kill her, police said.

He carried out his threat after she told him to go away and leave her alone again today.

Police said the umpires' action and the mounted charge saved the life of Edward Cartagena, 42, who was taken unconscious to a hospital. Doctors had feared he suffered a fractured skull, but he proved only slightly hurt. He was limping and groggy when he appeared at the Central Park Police Station.

The crowd stood in a large circle, murmuring angrily, more than an hour after Cartagena had drawn a red-handled kitchen knife with a six-inch blade and stabbed Carmello Olivo, 32, seven or eight times about the face and body, police said.

See Victim Fall Dead

Spectators and players watched in horror as Mrs. Olivo fell dead, and then rushed at Cartagena, swinging wildly. Police said Cartagena held the crowd at a distance by wildly brandishing the knife. The mob then threw baseballs, bats, rocks and other objects at the man.

A policeman wrestled the knife from Cartagena, and the crowd closed in on him. It was several minutes before police restored order.

Police said Cartagena had lived with Mrs. Olivo three years before she left him about five months ago. When she spurned a reconciliation last Thursday, he threatened to kill her, police said. He carried out his threat after she told him to go away and leave her alo again Sunday.

MOB TRIES TO LYNCH SLAYER IN NEW YORK

Man Stabs Ex-Sweetheart At Ball Game, Angry Crowd Is Barely Held Off

By The United Press

NEW YORK, May 24. — Two mounted policemen prevented a lynching in Central Park Sunday by charging into an angry mob that attacked a spurned lover after he fatally stabbed his estranged sweetheart while she watched a Sunday baseball game with another man.

Ballplayers and spectators beat the man with bats and fists and tore out his hair until he fell unconscious to the ground. Umpires Ernest Barbosa and Sam Ustin struggled to keep the enraged crowd from tearing the man apart until the mounties galloped to the scene.

Saved By Umpires, Police

8548

Posse Captures Convict Charged With Shooting 4

GREENVILLE, S. C.—(ANP)—An escaped convict, charged with going on a shooting rampage and killing one white man and injuring three others, last week was returned to the state penitentiary for safekeeping.

He is Clarence Payne, Jr., 32, who was captured by some 200 officers after a night-long manhunt. He had escaped from the county chain gang near Travelers Rest armed with a pistol he had taken from a guard.

Dead is J. Wayne Jones, 40, who was shot fatally while he and two companions sat in a parked automobile. His companions, Lake F. Pittman and J. P. Dempsey, were shot as they sought to escape from the car. Neither was seriously injured.

Both men said that Payne walked up to the car and said:

"This is a stickup," and then started blazing away with the gun.

Earlier, Payne is said to have shot Arto Brown in a cafe several blocks away. Payne reportedly was attempting to rob the cafe. Brown was reported in fair condition at a hospital.

During the course of the manhunt, Policeman W. L. Jackson shot an innocent Negro, identified as Hughey Anderson. Anderson was critically wounded.

27h 1953

Illinois

8549

RAPE AND OTHER SEX OFFENSES INCREASE IN '52

An increase of 68 in the number of rapes reported in Chicago during 1952 and an increase of 232 in the number of sex offenses were reported yesterday by Lt. Joseph Healy, head of the narcotics, sex, and vice section.

Lt. Healy said 514 rapes were reported, which compared with 446 during 1951. There were 1,983 sex offenses recorded as compared with 1,751 for the previous year.

Solve 1,611 Cases

Records indicated that 1,611 of the 1952 sex offense cases were solved, an increase of 159 over 1951. Lt. Healy credited the increase to the establishment last year of a separate squad to investigate such cases.

Of the 1952 rapes, 337 were forcible, with 161 listed as solved. Statutory rapes accounted for 177, of which 166 were reported solved. During 1951, there were 259 forcible rapes, of which 154 were solved, and 187 statutory rapes, of which 181 were solved.

Other 1952 sex offenses reported by Lt. Healy, with the number solved in brackets, were: Attempted rape, 100 [58]; incest, 12 [12]; sodomy, 17 [13]; attempted sodomy, 2 [1]; perversion, 51 [49]; indecent liberties, 176 [144]; assault with attempt to commit a lewd act, 68 [63]; contributing to the delinquency of a minor, 451 [397]; indecent exposure, 238 [201]; peeping toms, 27 [22]; lewd, wanton, and lascivious conduct, 155, [155]; annoying women and children, 128 [125]; possession of obscene literature, 44 [44].

207 Cases Still Pending

Lt. Healy said cases against 207 of the 1,477 offenders arrested in 1952 still are pending in Municipal and Felony courts. Disposition of the other 1,270 was as follows: 96 to County jail; 80 to the Bridewell; 39 to psychiatric institutions; 187 fined; 434 on probation; 311 placed on supervision; 66 to penal institutions; 27 forfeited bonds, and 30 received no bills from grand juries.

Sex offenses other than rape reported during 1951, with the number solved in brackets, were: attempted rape, 187 [181]; incest, 5 [5]; sodomy, 13 [8]; perversion, 33 [28]; indecent liberties, 200 [154]; contributing to the delinquency of a minor, 387 [346]; indecent exposure, 210 [170]; peeping toms, 20 [19]; lewd, wanton, and lascivious conduct, 145 [140], and annoying women and children, 38 [38].

8550

Manhunt Formed For Mobile Negro

Advertiser

MOBILE, Ala., Dec. 7 (AP)—City Detective Charles Nall said a Negro man attempted to rape a Mobile housewife today in the south part of Mobile. A hunt is under way for the man.

Nall said it was the third such attempt here in the last three weeks. The two previous attempts were in the Spring Hill area, where two women reported a Negro man took their clothing.

Rewards totaling $300 have been offered for information leading to arrest of the Spring Hill prowler.

Officers said the attempt today occurred after a Negro entered the woman's home through an unlocked door. She managed to escape injury, officers said. She reported sixty dollars stolen from her purse.

Bloodhounds brought down last week from the State Prison Farm at Atmore were unable to pick up any trace of the man.

Nall said it had not been determined whether today's attempt was made by the same man who has been active in the Spring Hill area.

8551

8551

Woman Accosted By Negro Youth On Bicycle Here

Police yesterday were searching for a Negro youth who accosted a young white woman here late Saturday night.

The woman told officers she was approached by a Negro riding a bicycle while she was walking [illegible] street, and quoted him as saying, "Baby, come over here and talk to me."

However, she related, he jumped off the bike and ran when she screamed.

The only identification she could [illegible] police was that the Negro was "wearing a light coat," reports stated.

Also under investigation was the theft of two cases of beer from the Jet Inn, 820 Alexander St. Police reports said entrance was gained through the front window.

State Adds $300 To Reward Offered In Prowler Search

Gov. Gordon Persons announced yesterday that the state had added $300 to the reward previously posted for capture of a Negro prowler who is said to have molested white women in suburban Spring Hill of Mobile.

Persons said that the state had put up the money at the request of Circuit Solicitor Carl Booth, who wrote the governor that the residents of Spring Hill are "excited and alarmed" over the recent attacks.

Sheriff W. H. Holcombe and Police Chief Dudley McFadyen in Mobile had already posted a $200 bond. They have termed him a "sex psychopathic case."

One woman reported that the Negro ripped her clothing off, and another said she was thrown to the ground in the back yard of her home.

Both said that although neither of the women was criminally attacked, the Negro's action led to the conclusion that his intent was to commit rape."

In announcing this reward, Persons also announced that the state had posted rewards for the capture of two Negroes who are under indictment in Madison County for separate killings.

They were identified as Charles Martin, a paroled convict, and Hillary Hereford. A reward of $200 was offered by the state for Martin, while a $400 reward has been offered in the Hereford case.

8552

Young Woman Attacked Here By Negro Man

Rapist Is Tracked By Policemen, Dogs; Suspects Questioned

By JAMES LANHAM

An unidentified Negro raped a young white woman at her home on Perry Hill Road here yesterday while her four small children hid in another room, Police Commissioner Earl James said.

James quoted the woman as saying the rapist entered the home through an unlocked back door, choked her into submission, and raped her.

The frantic call for help came to police headquarters at 11:05 a.m., police officers said.

A score of police officers and the woman's family physician arrived at the house within minutes.

Bruised marks on the young victim's throat were left by a belt or cord which the rapist used to choke his victim, James said.

Dogs from Kilby Prison joined city, county and state police who converged near the scene of the crime to search for the man.

A trail was struck near the house but the dogs lost it after an hour of slow, tedious tracking.

The Negro, described as 18 to 20 years old, weighing about 160 pounds with medium dark complexion, and wearing blue overalls, assaulted the woman shortly before 11 a.m., the commissioner added.

He forced the housewife to sign a check in the amount of $50 before he raped her, the woman said.

Hospital attendants where the victim was taken for treatment of shock and bruises said laboratory reports definitely showed the woman had been raped.

More than a dozen police cars which operated under the direction of Commissioner James and Police Chief G. J. Ruppenthal, picked up a number of suspects in the area, police officials said.

Questioning of the suspects was being carried on at press time last night.

Tracks leading from the scene of the attack were followed by officers until passing traffic made the footprints invisible.

Fingerprint men from the city police department dusted the room and doors of the house where the rape took place. No report was given of fingerprint tests results.

Dr. C. J. Rehling, state toxicologist, was brought on the case yesterday afternoon, Commissioner James said.

Negro Admits Raping Woman, Police Report

Jesse Frank Jackson Leads City Officers To Missing Clothes

Jesse Frank Jackson, 22-year-old Montgomery Negro, yesterday admitted the rape of a young housewife here Wednesday, Police Chief G. J. Ruppenthal said.

Jackson, who has been held as a suspect in the case since a few hours after the woman was attacked at her Perry Hill Road home about 11 a.m. Wednesday, was formally booked on the rape charge last night, Ruppenthal said.

The confession came after a questioning session in the city jail, where the Negro has been held.

Ruppenthal quoted the stocky prisoner as saying he went to the woman's home to rob her, but "decided to rape her after she signed a $50 check for him."

Jackson, who already faces a grand jury indictment on an assault to murder charge, and a second charge of carrying a concealed weapon, has been moved to Kilby Prison for safekeeping.

Ruppenthal said a pair of blue coveralls which was thought to have been owned by Jackson was a main clue that aided in obtaining the confession from the man.

The coveralls allegedly were found in Jackson's possession, Ruppenthal said. Another set of coveralls which witnesses were quoted as saying Jackson wore on the day of the alleged rape could not be located by police.

After yesterday's questioning, Jackson offered to lead Detective C. J. Cox and Sgt. George H. Owen to the missing clothing.

They were found in a row of shrubbery between the Atlanta highway and Perry Hill Road where the Negro allegedly admitted he placed them after the rape attack, Ruppenthal said.

Jackson wore other outer clothing under the coveralls, he said.

Jackson told policemen that the woman's baby was playing in the room as he attacked her, according to the police.

Jackson's arrest came as a result of a "tip" received by Patrolman Elmer Dennis.

Dennis watched the suspect's house for several hours. Unidentified sources told him that Jackson allegedly used the name "Frank Brown" which was used in a check which the Negro rapist forced the woman to sign. The check was dropped at the woman's home.

Dennis assisted C. J. Cox and C. J. May in making the arrest.

Assistant Solicitor Robert Stewart recorded the statement made by Jackson yesterday. The accused man has signed the paper which charges him with the rape, Ruppenthal said.

State Toxicologist C. J. Rehling aided city police in the investigation.

Negro Confesses Rape, Say Police

SELMA, Ala., May 25—The rape of a young housewife has been admitted here by a Negro ex-convict, according to police.

William Earl Fikes, 27, who admitted attacking two other women, including the daughter of Mayor Chris Heinz, had previously denied the rape of the Craig airman's wife.

Saturday night, the Negro confessed committing the rape, after nine hours of questioning, and made a tape recording of the confession, said Police Capt. Wilson Baker.

Fikes was arrested last week after a senior high school student, whose suspicions were aroused by Fikes' actions, tipped off police.

His arrest followed a series of attacks and peeping Tom incidents here.

HELD IN SELMA in the attempted rape of two Selma white women is William Earl Fikes, 27, Marion, Ala., service station attendant and ex-convict who is shown above. Fikes' arrest, followed a tip to police by a high school student, Roland Harris. The Negro's arrest ended a period of frightened tension in Selma, brought on by the attacks.

Paroled Negro, 27, Confesses 2 Attempts At Rape In Selma

By PHILIP QUERIDO
Journal State News Editor

SELMA, Ala., May 19—A paroled 27-year-old Negro convict has confessed the attempted rape of two white women, police announced yesterday, ending a wave of terror that has gripped Selma since mid-March.

Capt. Wilson Baker said a two month search and a reward of $1,350 led police to William Earl Fikes, service station attendant from Marion, Ala. Baker said Fikes, in a taped recording, admitted entering the home of Mrs. Al Rockwell, 24-year-old daughter of Mayor Chris Heinz, the night of April 24.

However, Fikes denied the attack on Mrs. B. Stinson, on March 18, even though blood stains found there match his "B" type blood.

Baker pointed out unlawful entry at night "for the purpose of committing a felony" carries the death penalty in Alabama. Fikes has been taken to Kilby Prison in Montgomery where he will remain until the next criminal session of the Perry County circuit court. He is still being questioned.

Paroled In 1951

Fikes was paroled Jan. 12, 1951, during the closing days of the Folsom administration. He was scheduled to remain on parole until 1955, Baker said.

Fikes had been sentenced to six years on a charge of stealing car tires in 1949.

The strapping, 5 feet 11, 140-pound Negro also admitted entering the home of Mrs. C. C. Binford the night of May 1. During the 24-hour grilling at Kilby Prison on throughout the week end, Fikes told police he entered the bedrooms of the two women with the express attempt to attack

According to the newspaper, Roland (Buddy) Harris, 17, a Parrish High senior, spotted the Negro and trailed him for some 30 minutes before losing sight of him in an alley. Harris then notified police, but meanwhile the Youngbloods saw Fike dash across the street as the pair was returning from a movie.

Youngblood questioned Fikes and then marched him ahead of his car to a service station where

town, women reportedly terrorized

Tip Leads To Arrest

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Baker said police

Times-Journal, showed

Mrs. Jake Youngblood questioned Fikes

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them. However, in both cases he was scared out by their loud screams. It was reported Mrs. Rockwell chased him with a butcher knife

police arrested him.

$1,350 Reward

Both Harris and Youngblood are expected to claim part of the $1,350 reward money donated by the state, the city, the Negro Elks, and the white and Negro Selma Veterans of Foreign Wars organizations.

Baker told him the Negro gained entrance to the Rockwell home by using a small wire to unlatch a screen in the baby's bedroom. He said he noticed the child, but did not molest him.

Baker then quoted the Negro as saying he went into Mrs. Rockwell's bedroom and attempted to rape her as she lay in her bed asleep. Mrs. Rockwell resisted his advances, though, and began to scream.

"We fought in the bedroom and out into the hallway," Baker quoted Fikes. "Then she got hold of my knife," Fikes was reported to have said, "and she threatened me with it. I ran out the back door."

The following Friday night, Baker said, Fikes admitted entering the Binford home through a bathroom window. He said, however, Mrs. Binford saw him and he escaped when she started to scream.

The Negro is married, police said, but explained "he doesn't find sextual satisfaction at home."

Denies Actual Rape

Although Fikes did not admit the actual rape committed March 18 on Mrs. Stinson, the attempted rapes he is reported to have confessed to are capital offenses here, Police Chief E. W. Mullen said.

Despite Fike's admission, prowler alarms have continued through Monday, police said. However, Mullen warned pranksters to cut out practical jokes, such as cutting screen windows to upset Selma women.

"We have thought this was going on for several weeks," the police chief said, "and last night the department learned positively such pranks are being pulled."

Mullen asked co-operation in halting this "dangerous joke-playing activity before some one is injured, or possibly killed."

Last night, at 3:31 a.m., Meredith Pour, a Craig Air Force Base airman reported he had shot and injured a Negro who was attempting to enter the house next to his on 721 Young St.

Bloodhounds were carried to the scene and trailed scents for two hours until heavy rainfalls interrupted their work.

However, police did not link this alarm with the recent series of assaults since they believe Fikes responsible for the attacks and house breakings.

Paroled convict admits assault

SELMA, Ala., May 25 — A paroled Negro convict was held today after police said he admitted assaulting a soldier's young wife and attempting the assault three other women here.

Police Capt. Wilson Baker said William Fikes, 27, Marion, Ala., made a tape recorded confession Saturday night after nine hours of questioning.

Baker said the confession cleared up an outbreak of nighttime home raids and peeping Tom incidents which had terrorized Selma housewives.

The officer also quoted Fikes as saying he entered the residence of Dr. Harlan Hollingsworth, a chiropractor, and fought with him on the night of May 11.

The ex-convict said he came to Selma at least once a week from Marion, where he worked as a filling station attendant, Baker added.

The wife of an Air Force sergeant was assaulted March 18 by an intruder who entered her residence while she was waiting for her husband to come home.

Fikes was arrested May 16.

Four Bessemer Teenagers Held On Rape Charge

BESSEMER, Ala.—(SNS) — Four teen-age boys were still confined in County Jail this week without bond on charges of allegedly raping a 13-year-old neighborhood girl reportedly under a school house in the U. S. Pipe Shop community, Chief of Police C. T. Mullen reports.

Two other boys, also held on the same charges in connection with the attack on the girl are in the detention home of the Juvenile Court headquarters in West End, due to their under ages, 15-year-old.

Lodged in County Jail in Bessemer are Frederick Childs, 19 of Long 16th Street; Daniel Pete, 18 of 1817 15th Street; James Pete, Jr., 16 of 1817 15th Street, and Jesse Little, 17 of 2400 North Eighth al, all of Bessemer.

Chief Mullen quoted arresting officers as saying that the young suspects allegedly dragged the girl under the school, around 8:30 Tuesday night and allegedly forced their wishes upon her until 12:30 o'clock, Wednesday morning before day.

Negro Who Slugged Jailer Recaptured

COLUMBIANA, Ala., June 18 (AP)—A young Negro prisoner who slugged a jailer and escaped was recaptured today after an all-night hunt by a posse.

The prisoner, Percy Mabry, 17, Helena, was returned to the Shelby County jail, where he had been held on a rape charge.

Deputies said he was picked up at a barbecue stand about one mile from Columbiana.

Solicitor Conrad Fowler said Mabry slugged Jailer Dodson Mosley with a bottle. Mosley was listed in serious condition at an Anniston hospital from head injuries and loss of blood.

Mosley said the Negro youth asked to use the telephone, then grabbed a bottle and struck him.

Hold Six Youths in Ala.; Accused of Raping Girl

BESSEMER, Ala. — Four teenage boys were still confined in county jail this week, without bond on charges of allegedly raping a 13-year-old neighborhood girl under a school house in the U. S. Pipe Shop community, Chief of Police C. T. Mullen reports.

Two other boys, also held on the same charges in connection with the attack on the girl, are in the Detention Home at the Juvenile Court headquarters in West End, due to their ages under 15 years.

Broken Down Automobile Downfall Of Rape Suspect

BESSEMER, Ala. — (AP) — A broken-down automobile parked on the side of a road enabled police to capture a young rape suspect here this week, Chief of Police T. T. Mullen revealed.

The suspect, David Manning, 24, of 618 North Eighth Avenue, Bessemer, is confined in County Jail, Birmingham, on a suspected charge of attempted raping a 21-year-old pregnant woman at her home, around 1:30 o'clock early July 5, morning, Chief Mullen said.

"INVITES HIMSELF"

Investigating officers quoted the woman as saying that she was lying on the floor in the door of the living room, asleep, in an attempt to catch some cool air. She said she awoke and discovered Manning allegedly "inviting" himself to her. She stated further that the suspect became frightened and did not complete the act, jumping up and dashing from the house through the back door.

Chief Mullen said officers assigned to the case was headed toward Tuscaloosa on a hunch and caught Manning before he could leave the city limits. Officers said Manning was near his broken-down car parked on the Tuscaloosa highway and they recognized him and placed him under arrest. He is being held without bond.

The victim's husband, Nathaniel Bruce, of 508 Dunbar Court, Bessemer, swore out the warrant for Manning's arrest. Manning was apparently a "friend of the family," Chief Mullen said.

Crippled Widow Reports Rape

PRICHARD, Ala., Aug. 15 (AP)—A manhunt for a Negro who raped a crippled widow remained unsuccessful today, authorities said.

The 40-year-old woman reported that the attack occurred as she was home alone late last night, Police Sgt. C. D. Wilkes said. The victim said the man, who brandished a large kitchen knife in his hand, told her he would kill her if she cried out.

The entire house had been ransacked, police said, evidently before the assailant reached the woman's bedroom where she was asleep.

Chief E. C. Anderson directed Prichard police in a hunt for the man and other police agencies in Mobile County were asked to aid.

Dog Warden L. W. Burnett said dogs brought down from the Atmore State Prison Farm were unable to find the man's trail because the area was too populated.

Sex Slayer Confesses

SCOTTSBORO, Ala. — A 26-year-old Bridgeport man is being held in the Jackson County jail in connection with the "Cornfield Sex Slaying" of a 13-year-old girl and the criminal assault of her 11-year-old sister.

Sheriff Lawrence Sebring said that Earl Young had confessed that he tied the girls in a cornfield near Bridgeport and then criminally assaulted Lois, but denied that he assaulted Bernice.

The sheriff said both girls were beaten [illegible] Officers said Bernice, the severely beaten sister, identified Young as the man who beat her and her [illegible]

Crippled widow tells police of criminal assault by burglar

PRICHARD, Ala., Aug. 15 (AP) A 40-year-old crippled widow reported she was raped late Friday night by a Negro burglar, and a widespread manhunt was immediately started.

Police Sgt. C. D. Wilkes said the woman was alone in the house when the attack occurred. Bloodhounds rushed here from the Atmore (Ala.) State Prison Farm failed to pick up the trail.

The victim told police she was asleep at the time the burglar broke into her house. She said when she first saw him he was standing in the doorway of her bedroom. She said the intruder flashed the beam of a flashlight into her face, then into his own face, and told her he would kill her if she cried out.

Dog Warden L. W. Burnett said the area for several miles around was too populous for the dogs to follow the trail.

The victim told police she was sure she could see the attacker's face in the reflected light from knife in his hand.

Police found that all parts of the house had been ransacked, evidently before the attacker reached the woman's bedroom.

HOUNDS PUT ON TRAIL IN CRIMINAL ASSAULT

Negro Attacks Young Woman In Pine Bluff

PINE BLUFF, Ark., May 26.—(AP)—A [illegible]-year-old woman was criminally assaulted here early Tuesday [illegible] identified Negro, Police Chief Met Gallagher said.

City and county authorities used bloodhounds in an attempt to pick up the trail of the attacker.

Chief Gallagher said the woman told him [illegible] the office where she was working about 3 a.m. and advanced on her. She threw a Coke [illegible] him but missed and the Negro forced her outside where he attacked her, Chief Gallagher said.

The police chief said a physician confirmed that the [illegible] been [illegible]

27h(1) 1953

CALIFORNIA

8554

Girl, 13, tells 75 rapes by teen agers in two months

A 13-year-old Westside girl told a shocking story of rape by 75 boys since her release on probation from Juvenile Hall two months ago, police records disclosed today.

Re-arrested as a delinquent, the girl's story came about as a result of a complaint of a rape attack on her in her west 30th street home last Thursday afternoon by five teen-age boys, the oldest 16.

Each boy attacked her twice, the girl, whose name is withheld by the Tribune, said. Police booked bedsheets, blankets and lingerie into evidence, all bearing signs of the attack, and said that the girl, examined and treated at Georgia street receiving hospital immediately afterward, bore evidence of "brutal, prolonged attack." P. 3

She protested to police, called by girlfriends who had fled from the home when the boys entered, that "I really didn't want to have anything to do with those boys . . . They broke into the house. . . . I fought . . . but they held me . . . I was crying when they left."

Officers said that the child then added, plaintively, "I guess they thought I wouldn't mind because the other boys raped me in the alley back of ———'s house.

"There have always been four or five. Once before, in my house it was only three. Once it was in the garage, and once in the alley.

"Since I've been out on probation, it must have been 75 boys. I don't know what school they go to, but they were all under 18.

Police said that the boys claimed that the girl had given her consent. The eldest of those arrested, Arthur Baker, 16, went in and "loved her up," they said, and she "volunteered . . . to take them all on."

The girl's mother was summoned by police from work. Three little neighbors, 12 and 13, one of whom summoned police, were witnesses to the boys' pursuit. They took turn holding her and took turns as lookouts, and held a pillow over her head to stifle her screams, the young suspects admitted to police.

Arrested were Gerald Mack Thomas, 15, 314 W. 57th st.; Richard Arlin McCoy, 15, 721 W. 42nd st.; Jerome Albert Evans, 14, 163 W. 43rd st.; and Pat Carson and Baker.

Girl, 13, admits intimacy with five boys

Two Westside girls, one 13 and one 14, were tagged by juvenile authorities as having a "history of rape" this week after one admitted to intimacy with five boys, and the other described a forcible attack on her by an 18-year-old youth with whom she had petted.

Both girls are friends, and the mothers of each reported the attacks on the same day within several hours of each other.

Sought by police as the rapists are a boy, approximately 17 or 18, known as "Perry", and one Joseph Reese, 18, whom police said frequents a malt shop at 36th and Denker.

The girl who admitted to the most extensive sexual experience was the 13-year-old. She (name withheld by this paper) told police that she met "Perry", whom she knew slightly, in a West Adams and Crenshaw theatre last Sunday and "necked" with him. She left the show with him and went to the home of a boy named "Johnny" on 11th avenue. She told police that she can point the house out.

"Johnny" was not at home, child said, but "Perry" ha[d] key, and they [illegible] and petted some more, after which the sexual act took place.

The child admitted similar acts with a boy named Joe Ward, 17, on Normandie; Clifford Riley, 14, in East Los Angeles; Reggie Paige, 17, in Val Verde; and Calvin Harris, 16, on Cimarron. At least one encounter with Ward took place the following day.

The 14-year-old told police that she objected to being petted, and fought throughout the attack by Joseph Reese, which took place at 1643 W. 35th st. Tuesday afternoon.

With the 13-year-old girl, the 14-year-old said that she had gone to the West 35th street residence after school to see Joe Ward and a boy named "Eddie."

All five went into the bedroom where Joseph Reese kissed and fondled her over her objections, she said.

Then they split up, the youngest girl and Joe remaining in the bedroom and the other three going into the living room, where Eddie prepared a pallet on the floor for the couple, and left.

After the act, the child ran home and told her mother, and the crime was reported.

Child, 14, reports two-week-old rape by two youths

A 14-year-old Watts girl reported the forcible rape by two men more than two weeks ago to police last weekend.

After being taken to 1539 E. 57th st. on a ruse, the child, whose name is withheld, told police that she was threatened with a stick, and held by one youth for the other in turns.

In the room at the time, said the child, was another minor girl who had induced her to go to the house after a dance on the pretext that a party was in progress. The boy who took them there, Bobby Johnson, of 1118 E. 118th st., was outside and heard her screaming and yelling for help, the child said.

Movements of dead woman held key to mystery killing

Cooperation of the community in tracking down the brutal rape-killer of Mrs. Alberta Knox, 47-year-old housewife and Victory Baptist church member, of 818½ E. b3rd pl., was asked by Sgt. W. E. Toole, of the Newton Police detective bureau, this week.

Sgt. Toole declared the department completely baffled as to the identity of the man who apparently grabbed Mrs. Knox as she stepped up to the rear door of her home, slugged and dragged her into the alley, almost at the rear of Phillips Temple CME church, where he beat and raped her and left her in a state of unconsciousness from which she was never to recover. P. 2

Without regaining consciousness, Mrs. Knox died in surgery Tuesday afternoon at the General hospital of a crushed skull.

Battered and beaten by her slayer, her head had been caved in by vicious blows against a carpenter horse, found matted with blood and hair in her yard.

Her dress torn and pulled above her waist, her underpants dangling from one leg, she was found, police said, by her husband, William H. Knox, at about 12:35 a.m. as he parked the car in the garage off the alley. The house, a rear one, was set almost on the alley, and although it had a front door, Mrs. Knox was in the habit of using the rear door, witnesses said.

Knox, who told police that he had not been living at home for some time, gave no explanation of why he had returned to see his wife that night; but said that he had the key to the house and kept his clothes there, and came and went at will.

Police found a key to the house at the scene of the grisly crime; but in spite of the fact that there was no record of Mrs. Knox having been clothed for the street—no girdle, coat, or hat, they seemed to regard the key as hers; and said that indicated that she had it out of her purse and in her hand, and was preparing to open

SCREAMS HEARD

Mrs. Knox was last seen early Monday afternoon by a neighbor, Mrs. Evelyn Brown, of 821 E. Vernon, who said that the dead woman was then planning for a party that night and told her that she might need her help.

The understanding was that if she needed her, she would call her, said Mrs. Brown; but as she did not hear from her neighbor, she gathered that she was not needed.

Instead, at about 11:30 that night, Mrs. Brown said she heard screams coming from the alley. She got up to investigate, but seeing nothing, went back to bed. A short while later the body was discovered. Odee Knox, living in the front house at 818 E. 43rd pl., apparently a relative of William Knox, summoned police.

Mrs. Knox was childless; however, her husband had a son, Geames Knox, also a paper mill worker, of 1528½ E. Adams.

Booked as evidence, police said, was a pair of pink panties, apparently similar to those worn by Mrs. Knox, which police said were taken from young Knox's house. Neither the young man nor his father is a suspect, police said.

William Knox was at home, his place of residence apart from Mrs. Knox, at the time the killing occurred, said Toole. What this address is the record did not state.

The key to the mystery, according to the policeman, is where Mrs. Knox was during the house between 7:30 and 11:30 p.m.

Apparently discounting the notion that Mrs. Knox may have been dragged from her home into the alley, the officer thinks that her whereabouts during those hours may be the key to her attacker. Anyone knowing anything about Mrs. Knox's movements is urged to communicate with the police.

The officer also said that he is investigating rumors that Mrs. Knox was going with another man; but as yet to identify the man.

In addition to the husband, the dead woman is survived by a sister, Mrs. Jewel Gaylord, of 759 E. 46th st.

Rape halted when victim reminds man of daughter

Two rapists were unexpectedly affected by the wish of their victim that she hoped someone "does this" to their daughter someday, and quit their assault in the middle of the attack, police reported today.

However, on identification furnished by the victim, Mrs. Joe Etta Washington, 35, a maid, of 2312½ Wall st., police caught up with the remorseful pair, and jailed them.

One, Richard Gill, Jr., 23, a janitor of 704 E. 41st st., was found in bed with his wife and child, officers said.

The actual rape was being committed by Gill's companion, later identified as William Theodore Randolph 23, a silverman of 334½ W. 47th st., Mrs. Washington told police when, after having been choked and beaten into submission by Gill, she told her attacker:

"If you ever have a daughter, I hope someone does this to her."

Randolph stopped, she said, and told his companion, "Let this woman go."

They then asked where she lived and drove her to 23rd and Wall and let her go, Mrs. Washington said.

The woman, who had fought the pair so fiercely that they were forced to change the location of the attack before commencing the act, caught the license number of the car and gave it to police who arrived to take her to the receiving hospital for treatment after her ordeal.

She also told police that she remembered seeing a pair of baby shoes hanging from a rear view mirror.

Officers ran the license number through the Dept. of Motor Vehicles and turned up Gill. He exclaimed when arrested, they said, "Damn! I knew we shouldn't have picked up that broad!"

Police said that a soiled pair of men's shorts and ladies panties were found on the rear floor of the car.

Gill admitted the rape, but said that he did not complete the act, according to police. He said that after letting go of the woman, he offered her $10.00, but she refused it.

Police found Randolph lying on a couch and said that he told them, "Man this is a bum beef. I don't remember anything and don't know nothing. But I'll go along because you'll only keep me four or five days."

Asked if he had raped the woman, he allegedly said, "Man, I don't know. There was a broad in the car, but I was so high I don't know what happened. Man, I was loaded."

Mrs. Washington told police that she ran out of gas at 45th and Compton enroute home and walked to 43rd and Central, but was unable to get gas because she had no container. This was at 12:20 a. m., she said.

Intending to go to the station at 49th and Central, she said she walked South, and at Vernon was offered a lift by the two men.

She told police that she was afraid, but took the chance anyway.

They drove her to the vicinity of her car, but then got into the backseat with her and tried to subdue her.

When she resisted and screamed, Randolph covered her mouth while Gill drove to a new location, she said.

3 servicemen arrested on woman's rape charge

Three March Field Air Base servicemen were arrested last Friday night in a Sunday brawl, and upon investigation were booked on suspicion of the rape of a 38-year-old Eastside woman in an incompleted housing project at 52nd and Duarte.

However, only two men abducted and raped her, Mrs. Minteris Milas, a key punch operator at 5417 Duarte, told police.

But police said that all three of the men in some respect fitted the description of her attackers, given by the woman.

Sam Taylor, 22, was as tall as Mrs. Milas said one of her attackers was.

Benjamin F. Caloway, 21, was fighting with a white switchblade knife, as described by Mrs. Milas, and fitted the general description given; and Willie Gibson, 20, was wearing a knotted blue string resembling a rosary, and had a white metal cross in his pocket, also as described by the rape victim.

Mrs. Milas said she was walking North on Long Beach from Slauson shortly after 9 p.m., Nov. 4 when two men, who were walking toward her, accosted her.

One grabbed her and the other held a knife at her back, she said, and forced her to walk East on 57th to Duarte and then to 52nd street and into a partially completed house. She was taken upstairs, forced to undress and submit to both under threats from the men with the knife, she said.

The second man took her off into another room to attack her, the woman stated, while the first man ransacked her purse.

Mrs. Milas told police that she recognized Van Ray Crooms, of 5417 Duarte, a passerby, when she was being walked down the alley by the men, and that she spoke to him.

Crooms, questioned by police, said that the situation had looked normal to him, and he had just walked on after exchanging greetings. He said he would not be able to identify the suspects.

The servicemen told police that they were on passes which permitted them their freedom after hours daily.

Unwed Mother Charges Lover With Rape

LOS ANGELES, Calif. — A 17-year-old unwed mother of two children has charged her Louisiana missing lover with satutory rape because he balked on his promise to marry her.

The migrant, Arlee Atkins, 27, was arrested here last week on the rape charge and is being further investigated by the FBI for transporting a juvenile across state lines for immoral purposes. He is also being investigated by police for molesting his 21-month-old baby.

Atkins was accused by Verlena Vassor, 17, with whom he has been living as man and wife.

The young woman, forced to leave her parents home because she was pregnant, told police that Atkins brought her here from Louisiana last April after promising to marry her, with, however, her parents consent.

Since then, she said, he has refused to make good that promise and says he never will. She also charged that he molested their 21-month-old baby, one of their two children.

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Connecticut

8557

Servant, Sex Slaying Suspect, Is Sought Along N. Y. Docks

WESTPORT, Conn., Jan. 27—(UP)—The New York waterfront was believed to be hiding the suspected rape-slayer of Mrs. Penny Coats Evans, attractive 30-year-old socialite divorcee whose strangled, knifed body was found in a bedroom of the $25,000 home she planned to leave today.

Mrs. Evans, mother of a two-year-old son, was choked with the cord of an electric clock, stabbed five times in the heck and raped, according to Medical Examiner Harris S. Phillips.

Mrs. Evans

Sought for questioning was William Davis, 29, Negro handyman employed at the home who had been helping her pack her belongings only a few hours before her nearly nude body was found last night.

The slaying was revealed, according to police, by Davis' wife, Dolly, who telephoned Stamford police from the railroad station in that city that "my husband has just killed a woman."

Mrs. Evans, a strawberry blonde, was divorced two years ago from Montgomery Evans II of New York and Philadelphia, heir to a Philadelphia banking fortune. Police said there were several telegrams in the room purportedly coming from Evans and seeking a reconciliation.

Detective Capt. Edward Capasse said Mrs. Evans had decided against buying the house on which a down payment was made last Dec. 24 and Davis was helping her pack and tend the baby.

Late in the afternoon, he said, Davis telephoned for a cab and went to town, returning with a bottle of liquor. Two empty glasses were on the kitchen table.

Several hours later Davis picked up his wife who worked at a nearby estate and they rode to Stamford together on a train. On the way, the woman was quoted as saying her husband told her "something has been bothering me. I strangled Mrs. Evans."

At the Stamford station they parted and Davis' wife telephoned police who contacted Westport authorities.

Baby Sitter, 13, Tells of Attack By Youth, 21

Prince Georges County police yesterday charged Malcolm Lloyd Smith, 21, of 5730 66th ave., Eastpines, Md., with the rape of a 13-year-old attractive baby sitter late New Year's Eve.

The girl was attacked in the living room of the home of Mr. and Mrs. Cecil S. Lucas, 5728 66th ave., next door to the home of Smith, police said. She told police the youth came in and watched television with her for a while and then attacked her. She put up a terrific struggle, according to Detective Sergt. Earl L. Huber.

The furniture in the room was tossed all around and the youth had scratches on his face and neck and his right index finger bitten, Huber said.

Sergeant Huber said Smith admitted the attack.

The youth's stepfather went to the house looking for him, Huber said, but did not know of the attack until later. The girl called her parents, who notified police and took her to the Prince Georges General Hospital. She was in an hysterical condition and was kept at the hospital, Huber said.

Huber said the youth had been given an "undesirable" discharge from the Air Force March 10, 1952, and that he is at present unemployed.

Smith was arrested at his home shortly after the attack by County Policeman J. H. Vincent, who said he was packing a bag to leave but put up no resistance to arrest.

Smith is being held without bond for a preliminary hearing January 8 at Hyattsville Police Court.

The girl was caring for the two children of the Lucases while they went out to celebrate New Year's. She had served in that capacity several times, police said.

U. S. Worker Held on Two Rape Charges

A 27-year-old Justice Department clerk-typist yesterday was charged with raping two young women at knife's point. His arrest ended a month-long search for a man in a blue coat and candy-striped tie.

Fooks

Police said Oliver H. Fooks, jr., of 3561 11th st. nw., signed a statement admitting the charges after he was identified by the two victims in a police lineup.

Fooks was held for the grand jury without bond.

Lieut. John L. Sullivan, head of the sex squad, said the search began in early January when a man accosted a young woman at her car in an alley in the 3400 block of 14th st. nw. Brandishing a knife, the man forced her to drive him to Northeast Washington. On the way, she managed to escape. The man was never found.

On January 15, a 19-year-old waitress on her way to work was approached at 14th and H sts. nw. about 5:45 a. m., police said. The man pressed a knife against her throat, forced her to walk to a parking lot a half-block away, took $5 from her purse and then assaulted her.

Sullivan assigned Detective Sergt. James K. Hunter and Precinct Detective Charles A. Mackie to work on the case.

About 1:45 a. m. February 1, a George Washington University student reported she had been raped by a man with a knife.

The attractive 20-year-old girl, who lives near 14th st. and Perry pl. nw., said she had returned home with her boy friend shortly before midnight. A few minutes after he left she said, a stranger lured her out on the pretext her boy friend's car had crashed around the corner.

In both cases, the girls told police the attacker wore a blue coat, candy-striped tie and gloves, and carried a flashlight.

At 10:15 p. m. Thursday, the detectives spotted a man of that description—blue coat, gloves and flashlight—near 14th and Oak sts. nw. He was picked up for investigation and identified in the lineup at 11:45 p. m.

Knife Bearing Youth Rapes Woman, 26

A 26-year-old North Forestville divorcee was raped early yesterday by a knife-wielding youth who threatened to cut her throat if she screamed, Prince Georges County police reported.

Police said the woman, identified as an airline employe, was returning home by bus after she finished work at midnight. When she alighted from a bus near her home at about 1:35 a. m. she was approached by a man with a knife, police said.

She screamed but the assailant clasped his hand over her mouth and dragged her into a plowed field, she told police.

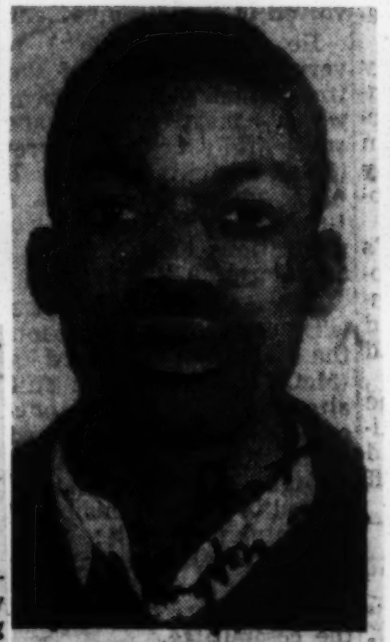
"If you scream I'll cut your throat," police said the woman was told.

After the alleged assault, police said, the six-footer took the woman's purse containing $28, then pointed to the butt of a pistol protruding from his pocket.

"Don't move until after I whistle," he said, "or I'll shoot."

A neighbor who heard the victim scream saw the assailant drive off in the direction of Washington, police said.

Police broadcast a lookout for a dark complexioned Negro youth, six feet tall, weighing 170 pounds, wearing a white T shirt and dark pants.



CLARENCE E. WATSON
. . . confesses hotel slaying

Police Trap Shoeshiner In Taggart Murder Case

Suspect Reenacts Killing in Hotel; Fingerprint Helps Solution of Crime

Metropolitan Police yesterday announced they had cracked the Taggart murder case with the arrest of Clarence Edward Watson, jr., a "polite and courteous" 19-year-old Pentagon shoeshine shop employe.

According to police, Watson not only admitted the murder of Alyce O. Taggart, 45-year-old National Science Foundation secretary, but confessed to a rape and robbery May 1 and two additional cases of assault and robbery on District women.

Watson was arrested at 6:30 p.m. Friday in the room he rented from a family who have an eighth floor, three-bedroom apartment at 2100 19th st. nw.

Deputy Police Chief Edgar E. Scott said that of the hundreds of suspects questioned in the Taggart murder, just about everyone had been eliminated except Watson.

Two Incidents Cited

The case apparently was cracked by two unrelated incidents.

Watson was arrested last January 9 when two women, returning to a parked car at 13th and E sts. ne., found him lying on the back seat with a knife. An off-duty policeman happened to hear their screams. Watson was fingerprinted, found "to have had sexual intent," according to Scott, and was fined $25 by Municipal Judge Frank H. Myers.

Incident No. 2 involved the rape and $40 robbery of a 23-year-old airline hostess in the 1700 block of P st. nw. last May 1. The victim gave a description and the attacker left a fingerprint.

Added to this, police long have had the hunch the Taggart murderer was familiar with the 21st and O st. nw. neighborhood. Watson's room at 2100 19th st. nw. is only eight blocks from the murder scene. The airline hostess also lived in the area.

When apprehended Watson was quoted by Scott as saying, "If you are arresting me for the murder on O st. on July 6, I took a trip."

Grilled Eight Hours

Police then grilled Watson for a solid eight hours.

First, Scott said, he confessed to seeing the airline hostess lying on her bed, and to entering through a window and raping and robbing her.

Then he confessed manhandling a 68-year-old woman on 3d st. ne., knocking her down (she was treated for fractured ribs) and taking $75 from a purse on her dresser.

Third, Watson admitted seeing a woman writing at a desk through a window in the 2000 block of O st. nw., gagging her, robbing her and then fleeing when he heard footsteps in the hall.

Finally, according to Scott, Watson broke down and admitted the duckpin murder of Miss Taggart.

Placed in Lineup

Watson was put in a police lineup Friday night. Two residents of the Scotts Hotel for Women, picked him out as the person most closely resembling the man they saw prowling around the hotel the night of Miss Taggart's murder. They were unable to identify him positively, however.

Yesterday morning police took Watson to the hotel where, according to Scott, Watson reenacted the murder. They also took him to the former house of the airline hostess on P st. nw., and he retraced his actions there, police said.

Arrest of the tall, rangy, mustached shoeshine employe brought an end to a search that began with the discovery of Miss Taggart's bludgeoned body July 6. The entire Metropolitan Police Department had been working round the clock on the case and as the Scotts Hotel manager, Margaret Gies, declared yesteday: "Every time we looked up there were some of them working here. I don't think they ever slept."

Inspector Scott was positive in saying the crime had been solved. "There's no question about it," he said, "Watson's our man."

Watson appeared in Municipal Court yesterday afternoon wearing an open-neck peach-colored sport shirt, gray trousers and black leather shoes. He widened his eyes, swallowed heavily a few times, but otherwise gave no indication of nervousness.

Police said they had had seven complaints filed against Watson since the District-born youth was nine years old. Three were for purse snatching.

Jailed Last January

According to police records, Watson was sent to the National Training School for Boys in November, 1951, released and then fined $25 in January of this year after a woman found him lying in the back of her parked car. She charged he threatened her with a knife.

At the Pentagon, William J. Thomas, manager of the Pentagon Shoe Repair Shop, said Watson had worked for him for one period, served time for purse snatching and then returned to work as a parolee four months ago.

"He was a very good worker, very courteous," Thomas said.

The manager's wife was more effusive: "Oh my God," was her first reaction, "He was one of our best boys."

Thomas said Watson had been absent from work between July 6 and July 13, the period after Miss Taggart's murder. According to his boss, Watson explained he had been in New York with his family.

Watson was arrested quietly, without struggle. Inspector Scott said police went to the 19th st. room around 3:30 p. m. Friday, four of the force remaining in the room and four others covering basement exits. Three hours later Watson walked in. He was unarmed and offered no resistance.

Yesterday afternoon Watson was brought before Municipal Judge George D. Neilson and charged with felonious murder and rape in the case of the 23-year-old airline hostess.

Judge Neilson assigned Thomas A. Wadden, recently resigned assistant United States attorney, to represent Watson after the defendant shook his head to indicate he had no attorney.

Wadden said Watson would plead not guilty to the rape charge and asked for a continuance on the murder case. Judge Neilson marked the case down for August 24 without plea. Until then Watson will remain in District Jail.

At Scotts Hotel, Manager Gies quietly declared: "We're very much relieved, and I'm sure our guests are."

The hotel's 200 women residents went about their business yesterday morning unaware that police detectives had slipped into Miss Taggart's room with Watson for the crime's reenactment.

Police said Watson's description—6 ft. 1½ in., 165 lbs., light-skinned Negro, wearing a mustache—coincided with that given by Scotts Hotel residents reporting a prowler in the corridor the night of the murder. Deputy Chief Scott added: "Some of the things in his confession tally with information on the case the police have never given out."

When notified of the arrest, Miss Taggart's brother-in-law, A. H. Huth, of Lafayette, Ind., said: "It's not going to help Alyce. But my wife (Miss Taggart's sister) and I always felt concerned that the same thing might happen to another girl in Washington if the man was not caught."

27h(1) 1953

Florida

8555

Jury Deadlock In Rape Case

MIAMI, Fla. — In a rape trial here last Friday, eleven of the twelve white jurors refused to believe the story of a white woman that a Negro raped her.

The judge accordingly declared a mistrial after the jury had deliberated two hours.

The [illegible] defendant, George [illegible], was held for another trial, after the jury had

Arrest Two For Alleged Assault On Local Woman

Two men were arrested early Saturday morning in connection with the alleged rape of a 23-year-old Atlanta woman.

Patrolmen T. C. Kennon and J. H. Wallace identified the arrested men as James B. Foreman, Jr., 19 and Tommy O. Paynes, 23. Foreman gave his address as 64[illegible] Fulliam St., and Paynes told the officers he lived at 1314 Bridges St.

The alleged rape took place between 3:30 and 4 a. m., at the Rear of 489 Dover St., S. W., near Northside Dr., S. W., and the two men were apprehended later at Grady Hospital.

The victim told the officers she and another woman were in a car with Foreman and Paynes and accompanied them to Bush Mountain to get some whiskey.

THREATENED VICTIM

Patrolmen Kennon and Wallace also quoted the victim as saying, Foreman drove to the Dover St., address and told her she would have to go with him. When she refused, he struck her several times and forced her, at the point of a knife, to enter the rear door of the Dover St., dwelling.

The victim refused to undress so he (Foreman) slapped her several times and threatened to kill her, the police report said. She told the officers that two other men were in the room when she was raped.

When Officers Kennon and Wallace started their investigation of the alleged crime they also interviewed a man who said he rushed to the scene when he heard the victim call for someone to leave her alone. This man told the officers that when he arrived, Foreman threw several things at him and attempted to cut him.

This man went home and got a friend, then when they returned to the scene, Foreman and Paynes got in the car and tried to run "over" them, the police report said.

While Officers Kennon and Wallace were interviewing the victim and the man who attempted to come to her rescue, Foreman is reported to have come out Haynes St., at a high rate of speed. The officers attempted to wave them down with flashlights, but they kept coming and almost struck one of the policemen. Foreman and Paynes continued and got away, but were later apprehended.

Cab Operator Cleared Of Criminal Assault Charge

Sigmund Cox, local businessman, was acquitted last night of charges that he criminally assaulted a 12-year old girl in Lincoln cemetery last August 21.

Cox took the stand late Friday afternoon. The taxi operator denied that he "touched" the girl and contended that he didn't even know her name at the time. He said that the youngster asked him to take her home about 7:55 on the night of the alleged crime.

The businessman said further that he drove directly to the girl's home and queried, "Little lady, don't you get out now?" Cox declared that girl declined and he put her out of the cab minutes later a few blocks from her home.

CHARGES BRIBE TRY

Speaking in firm, reasonal tones, Cox charged on the stand that the girl's parents attempted to bribe him out of $500. He said that he offered the parents $20 to take the girl to a physician to find out if she had been raped.

"I am 43-year-old," Cox continued, "and I have two children and I have never been locked up before."

His statement was in conflict with the testimony of the youngster and her parents. The youngster accused Cox of forcing her at gunpoint to remain in the cab and averred that she rode around with the taxi operator for two or three hours before the alleged attack in Lincoln cemetery.

On cross-examination, however, the youngster admitted that the cab passed her house twice and she made no attempt to get out. Defense Attorney Frank Bowers also extracted from her an admission that on the night of the alleged crime she told investigating officers that she had been riding with another man.

DEFENSE WITNESSES

The defense's key witnesses, Charlie Bradley and Mrs. "Toostie" Mullins, backed up Cox's statement. Bradley said that the girl was at the cab stand when he came on duty. Identifying himself as a former employee of the defendant, he testified that Cox picked the girl up about 7:55 and was not gone over five minutes.

Mrs. Mullins said she entered the cab about 8:30 and the girl was not in the automobile. The alleged victim had testified that she was in the car when Mrs. Mullins and her son got into the car. On cross-examination, Mrs. Mullins denied making a conflicting statement at the commitment hearing.

Patrolman H. B. Bibb said the girl told him that she had not been rape. A procession of witnesses testified that Cox's reputation was "good."

The girl's mother and father testified that Cox had offered them as mush as $500 if they dropped the charges against him. The father, a railway employee, quoted Cox as saying: "I don't want to go into court...I'll give you anything you say."

The mother broke down and cried under intensive direct examination. Judge George P. Whitman recessed the court at this juncture to give her time to compose herself.

A 16-year-old girl said that the alleged victim had been in Cox's cab between 8:15 and 8:30. On cross-examination, she said that she did not see a pistol in the car nor did the girl "look frightened."

Assistant Solicitor Jeff Tanksley and Special Prosecutor George T. Manley lashed out at defense witnesses in summaries to the jury. Manley charged that two defense witnesses lied on the stand and threatened to bring charges against one of them for perjury.

Attorney Bowers and C. G. Battle asked for Cox's release and contended that there was no corroborative evidence to the alleged victim's testimony.

Corp. George Sims of the Waycross State Patrol station said the woman stopped state troopers about 9 p. m. Thursday night and declared two Negroes had forced her into their car where they raped her. The woman pointed out the car about ten miles from the alleged rape, police said and the occupants were arrested.

The suspects were listed as Walter Miley, 21, of Alma, Ga., and Amos O. Brown, 22, of the same town. They are being held at an undisclosed jail, police said.

The Savannah woman, mother of two children, was reportedly beaten and raped by a man weighing about 135 pounds. The woman said she was walking from a barbecue stand near the Hi-Way 80 Drive-In Theatre when the man knocked her to the ground and partially disrobed her while threatening her with a knife. Police said they found evidence at the scene, several feet from the highway, indicating the crime had taken place.

Two Men Held On Assault Charges

SAVANNAH, Ga. —(INS)— Two youths are being held in Bacon County on charges of raping a young white woman, while Savannah police hunted a third suspect who was accused by a second woman of criminally assaulting her.

Cobb Trusty Is Indicted In Assault on Housewife

Amos Reece, Negro trusty prisoner at the Cobb County public works camp, was indicted yesterday by the Cobb County grand jury on a charge of rape, according to Sol. Gen. Luther Hames Jr. of the Cobb Superior Court.

Reece is accused of criminally assaulting a Cobb County housewife Tuesday after he left a road machine and went to the woman's house to ask for a drink of water.

The prisoner, already serving a sentence for attempted rape, had been granted trusty privileges in violation of State Department of Corrections regulations.

Warden Davis Taylor, who admitted the violation of regulations, is under fire as a result of the incident.

Asked yesterday whether the grand jury is investigating the warden or the administration of the public works camp, Hames said whatever the grand jury is doing would be confidential information.

The grand jury recessed for the week-end and will reconvene Monday.

Meanwhile, George Bryan, former Cobb County warden, denied that Reece was ever made a trusty during Bryan's tenure as warden. Taylor had told a Senate-House investigating committee that in permitting Reece to serve as a trusty he had followed a precedent set by two previous wardens.

The committee met in Atlanta for the third straight day and then recessed until next Tuesday.

After spending two days studying the causes of a recent wave of escapes by trusty prisoners from county and state penal branches and resultant crimes, the committee worked behind closed doors yesterday, drawing a report to be submitted to the General Assembly next month.

Apparently much of the work of the committee on its third day, however, was confined to a report on routine inspection trips of public works camps.

The committee's final report to the Legislature is expected to include recommendations for establishment of a classification center for prisoners, as suggested by Rep. Edwin S. Kemp, chairman of the House Prison Committee.

The report may also include recommendations for tighter state control over county wardens, who now are employed by county commissioners and approved by the State Board of Corrections. Kemp and Rep. Floyd Tumlin of Bartow charged Wednesday there is too much political interference by county commissioners with camp administration. They said the wardens pay too much attention to what the county commissioners tell them and not enough to State Department of Corrections rules.

Boy, 13, Held In Attack on Woman Here

Detectives last night captured a 13-year-old Negro boy who, they said, admitted raping a 20-year-old white woman—mother of two—just before noon. The boy was captured in a wooded area in Du Pont Hills near Chattahoochee Ave., NW.

The boy was positively identified, according to Dets. Jimmy Helms and E. F. McKillop, who made the arrest after searching in the northwest Atlanta area until nearly dark.

Dets. W. E. Petty and H. F. Brown said the boy went to a northwest Atlanta residence and asked the woman if he could speak to her husband about "some work."

Informed the husband was at work, he asked for a drink of water. When she brought it, he stepped through the screen door and threatened to kill her baby if she did not comply with his wishes, she told police.

She said she screamed and ran to the telephone, but he knocked her out with his fist, disrobed her and attacked her.

Put in County Jail

Boy Held in Assault Shielded From Crowd

ATLANTA —(AP)— A 13-year-old Negro boy accused of raping a young White mother was held in the Fulton county jail for safekeeping Sunday after police dispersed a crowd which gathered at the Fulton county juvenile detention home.

Sheriff A. B. Foster said the transfer was made five hours after the boy was arrested in a northwest Atlanta section.

Police Supt. Jimmy Brown said police received a tip that a group of residents planned to "visit" the detention home, which adjoins the Fulton county courthouse.

Brown said the group of 25 or 30 men dispersed after a warning. "It was obvious," Brown said, "that they were there to do violence to the suspect."

Sheriff Foster said he was advised of the incident after the crowd had been scattered, and with approval of Juvenile court Judge W. W. Woolfolk, transferred the boy to the county jail.

The young Negro was arrested by detectives J. E. Helms and E. F. McKillop, who said he admitted attacking the 20-year-old mother of two children.

Officers said the victim reported the youth came to her door and requested a glass of water and after learning her husband was away, pushed into the house, slugged her with his fist and raped her.

8559

How Much Is A Stolen Kiss Worth? He Must Pay 3 Yrs.

BAMBERG, Germany—(ANP)—How much is a stolen kiss worth? An American soldier stationed here will have to pay three years of his life at hard labor for the theft.

Testimony at the trial disclosed that Private Charles Wesson, 23, of Memphis, slipped into the bedroom of a 10-year-old German girl, where he planted a kiss on her cheek.

A member of the 26th Infantry Regiment, Wesson fled when the girl's frightened screams awakened her parents. He was convicted in the United States District Court of an indecent act with a minor.

RAPE CHARGE FILED AGAINST POLICEMAN, 26

George C. Harris, 26, of 9616 Perry av., Negro probationary policeman since March 2, was charged with rape yesterday. Harris, assigned to Morgan Park station, was arrested on the complaint of a 26 year old housewife. She said he accosted her on the street, posing as a narcotics and vice detective, and forced her to take him to her apartment. There, she added, he drew his pistol and compelled her to submit to his advances. Capt. William Ryan said Harris, who was off duty, admitted the intimacy, but denied he had used force. Commissioner O'Connor, who ordered Harris suspended, said he would request the civil service commission to discharge him.

WOMAN TAKEN FROM HUSBAND, RAPED BY THREE

A mother of four children reported to Englewood police that she was [illegible] early yesterday by [illegible] after being kidnaped while she and her husband [illegible] a short cut home from a tavern thru an alley near 63d and Normal blvd.

The [illegible] accosted her [illegible] and forced [illegible] automobile. They released her later at 57th pl. and Stewart av., she said.

Police were searching yesterday for a 200 pound man who allegedly attempted to rape a 16 year old high school girl [illegible] after gaining admittance to her home on the pretext of using the telephone. The girl's mother said she was awakened by the girl's screams and ran to the living room, causing the intruder to flee.

Hold Chicagoan In Rape Of Wife's Kin

A 25-year-old Chicago man, accused of the "revenge" rape of his wife's 13-year-old cousin, was shot and wounded last Wednesday as he attempted to escape from police following his capture on a Southside elevated train.

Clarence Caldwell, of 3546 W. 12th pl., was shot in the right leg by motorcycle policeman William Lightfoot. Lightfoot was watching Caldwell while Det. Leo Hagen, of the narcotics detail, called for a wagon.

Hagen arrested the accused rapist after he kept a rendezvous with Overa Robinson Caldwell. Mrs. Caldwell arranged the meeting in cooperation with police.

CALDWELL IDENTIFIED

Lt. Joseph Healy, head of the narcotics detail, said Mrs. Caldwell's 13-year-old cousin identified Caldwell in Bridewell hospital as the man who raped her in a schoolyard on Chicago's Westside on Sept. 18.

Healy said Caldwell was ordered out of the home of his wife's parents on Sept. 17 because he would not work and was abusive.

Mrs. Caldwell told police her husband returned the following day and attempted to force his way into the home. He was discouraged when Mrs. Caldwell fired a shotgun through the door, she told police.

Healy said Caldwell went to the home of his wife's young cousin following the incident and told her his wife had asked him to take her to the theater. After leaving the movie, the girl said Caldwell took her to the schoolyard and raped her. Healy said the Caldwells were married two months ago.

Caldwell was cornered in an alley and shot as he pointed an automatic pistol at Lightfoot. Lightfoot and Hagen examined Caldwell's gun later and found it had jammed. Healy described Caldwell as a notorious character and said he was suspected of raping several other school girls on the Westside.

PAIR CONFESS RAPE, ROBBERY OF HOUSEWIFE

Twelve detectives arrested two men in their homes early yesterday and the pair confessed raping and robbing a 25 year old housewife Oct. 19, the kidnaping and robbing of a couple Sunday night and 11 other robberies. One of them had been linked to the crimes thru finger prints.

Those held without charge are William Willingham, 23, alias Brothers, 1239 S. Spaulding av., and Willie Redmond, 26, of 3130 W. 16th st., both Negroes. Harry Penzin, deputy chief of detectives, led the raiders who took both men from their beds.

Traced by Finger Prints

Willingham was finger printed April 11, 1951, when he was arrested on a burglary charge. He was placed on probation the following May 21 after the charge was reduced to malicious mischief. Various finger prints were left behind at the scenes of several of their crimes. Detectives Burton Buhrke and Oscar Behnke of the bureau of identification established these prints were Willingham's after long hours of study.

Willingham admitted his guilt a few minutes after his arrest, and implicated Redmond. The detectives arrested Redmond a few minutes later.

Identifies Both Men

Chief of Detectives John T. O'Malley said the housewife they admitted raping last Oct. 19 still is hospitalized from shock. Despite her condition, but with her doctor's permission, the prisoners were taken to her hospital room where she identified both men.

Willingham [left] and Redmond

Willingham and Redmond, riding in a stolen automobile, deliberately bumped her car at Kedzie and North avs., then forced their way into the car when she stopped. Both men raped her behind 644 S. Kedzie av. They robbed her of $15. Later they shoved the hysterical woman from her car.

Admit Kidnaping Pair

The pair admitted kidnaping Robert Sandberg, 24, of 5343 Blackstone av., an automobile salesman, and Miss Bella Rubinson, 19, of 1352 S. Avers av., a typist, Sunday night in front of her home. They forced Sandberg from the car at 18th st. and Kostner av. after robbing him of $1 and his overcoat. They finally let her out without raping her after she pleaded she was only 15.

All their other robberies were of couples parked in cars. They denied any other rape. They told police six or seven watches taken from robbery victims were tossed in sewers after pawn shops refused to take them and the two robbers became frightened.

One of the finger prints used in linking the crimes to Willingham was found on the rape victim's billfold. Others were found on a rear view mirror and other parts of the cars of victims.

8561

Elevator man in attack case gets long term

Stocks leniency plea is ignored by county judge

MAYS LANDING — A former elevator operator in Atlantic City was sentenced last week to 18 to 21 years in state prison on a charge of criminal assault on a woman in the Vermont Apartments a year ago.

"I'm not guilty of the crime and I'd appreciate you being lenient," William Stocks, 25 the defendant, told County Judge Leon Leonard who asked him if he wished to make a statement before sentence was passed.

Stocks, formerly of Atlanta, is also known as "Billie" or "Willie" Stocks.

Medical Report Cited

He was found guilty by a jury June 17 of criminally assaulting Mrs. Bertha Estilow, 49, of 309 Boardwalk on June 2, 1952, in the basement of the apartment house.

David Brone, assistant county prosecutor, demanded a strong prison term for Stocks. He emphasized that a report from Menlo Park hospital "shows that the patient is not psychopathic."

When Stocks was tried he accused another elevator operator of the crime, but when he took the witness stand he completely exonorated the other accused man of any part in the crime.

Said He Was Scared

When Judge Leonard asked the defendant why he tried to pin ing this as a reason why he Shocks said he was scared, cit- the crime on the other man, gave police a signed statement admitting the assault.

Judge Leonard said in denying the defendant's plea for leniency:

"I have reviewed the trial and the report from Menlo Park to try to find something to arouse my sympathy in this case. I can find nothing.

"This is a very horrible and terrible offense."

Victim Beaten Also

The judge added that, in addition to the attack, the victim was beaten brutally necessitating her confinement to the hospital for 20 days.

"If she had not been discovered early," the court added, "I am convinced you would be facing a murder tiral."

8562

Yardman admits attack-slaying of former actress, police say

NEWARK, N. J., Jan. 28 (AP)—Police Commissioner Arthur Weller said today a man identified as William Davis, 29, had been arrested and had orally admitted the rape-slaying of a 38-year-old former actress in Westport, Conn.

Weller said Davis had been picked up by three detectives who acted on a tip from Brooklyn, N. Y., police.

WILLIAM DAVIS

Also picked up at a house with Davis was a woman companion identified as Janie Allen, who was being detained for questioning.

DAVIS, a Negro handyman, has been the object of a widespread police search since Westport authorities found the nearly nude body of Mrs. Sen[illegible] (Penny) Coats Evans, estranged wife of Montgomery Evans, 52-year-old writer and heir to a banking fortune.

The prisoner was taken to police headquarters here, shackled to one of the detectives who made the arrest.

At the time of his capture, which police said was without a struggle, Davis was wearing a Navy pea jacket and dark trousers.

Brooklyn detectives, who had been combing neighborhood bars for Davis, said they had missed him twice by seconds as he toured South Brooklyn bars with a woman companion.

Davis was undergoing further questioning by Newark police, who said they were taking statements from him and could give no further information immediately.

* * *

MRS. EVANS' BODY was found Monday night in her Westport home. She had been strangled and raped. The only garment on the body was a sweater. Her 2½-year-old son, Montgomery Evans III, was in a nearby room sobbing when police arrived.

The hunt centered on Davis, who once served a Pennsylvania prison term, after his wife told Westport police that he had informed her he had killed Mrs. Evans. Davis and his wife, Dolly, a baby sitter, frequently did odd jobs for Mrs. Evans.

Attacked, slain—Mrs. Senada Evans. (AP wirephoto.)

27h(1) 1953 New York

8563

Frames Negro Story As Easy Way Out

BROOKLYN, N. Y. — (ANP) — Two middle-aged Negro kidnapper-rapist-bandits last week proved to be only the figments of the imagination of Madeline Pantin. Under questioning by police, the recent bride confessed that she had concocted a story of a robbery to protect herself.

Deputy Police Inspector J. F. Lockhart said Mrs. Pantin admitted making up the story to mislead her husband from knowing that she had withdrawn $300 from their saving account to give to her mother to make a payment on a house which her mother was buying.

Police had searched all night for the supposed two Negroes who whisked her away in an aged automobile; attacked her with a knife; attempted to rape her and took her $300 before she stabbed one of them with his own switch-knife. She faces a charge of making a false report of a crime.

27h(1) 1953

New York

8563

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8564

2nd Man In Case Is Silent

By A. L. RIVERA JR.
(Courier Staff Correspondent)

FORT BRAGG, N. C.—Startling developments loom in the case of Lieut. John R. Griffin, 28, charged with raping the wife of a white corporal, as Army authorities brought formal charges against a white South Carolina-born commission officer accused.

The Army announced late last week that Lieutenant Sloan of Greer, S. C., had been charged with drunkenness and disorderly conduct in connection with the alleged pre-dawn rape of the wife of a white non-com officer and that further charges would probably be brought at the conclusion of the present investigation.

* * *

LIEUT. ROBERT D. Cargell, assistant information officer, said that according to the witness testimony, she was beaten by Griffin after she refused his advances as the three were returning from a party in the early hours of Oct. 11.

The first report of the incident quoted the woman, whose identity is being guarded closer than an atomic secret, as stating that Sloan was drunk and passed out on the back seat of the car at the time of the alleged rape.

A Raleigh newspaper quoted Sloan as saying that the testimony of the prosecutrix was "not true." The Raleigh source reported that when Sloan was questioned about his sobriety at the time of the alleged crime, he replied, "I don't want to make a statement until this thing is cleared up. I'll be involved."

SLOAN DENIED making this or any other statement about the affair. He told Army authorities that he had not opened his mouth to anybody about the case.

Lieutenant Cargell told this reporter that no charge had been placed against Lieutenant Sloan in connection with the actual reported rape. The PIO officer stated that the only persons who have testified so far are the alleged victim and the accused and at this point neither had implicated the white officer.

According to the testimony now before the Army, Sloan was drunk and "out" at the time of the alleged assault, yet he is being held on charges of drunkenness and disorderly conduct. In an effort to obtain the basis for the disorderly conduct charge, we asked Lieutenant Cargell to explain when the white officer was disorderly.

Lieutenant Cargell said that his information was not official, but that it was his understanding that the unidentified prosecutrix went to the "private type" party with Lieutenant Sloan, while her husband, a corporal, was on guard duty. Lieutenant Griffin, who is said to be a friend of Lieutenant Sloan, joined the party and during the evening was introduced to the alleged rape victim by Sloan.

* * *

AS FAR AS the Courier could learn, the activity of the white officer that would support the disorderly conduct charge was either bringing the corporal's wife to the party or introducing her to the Negro officer.

The implication is thta the alleged victim had no business at the party, but Army officials said that her impropriety was no justification for rape.

Lieutenant Griffin, a native of Memphis, Tenn., is scheduled to be tried by military court on Nov. 4. He will be represented by Atty. Harry E. Groves, a Fayetteville lawyer. Conviction on the charge of rape carries a maximum penalty of death.

* * *

LIEUTENANT CARGELL said that the conviction of Lieutenant Sloan on the charges of "disorderly conduct and drunkenness" under the articles upon which he will be tried would result in a probable dishonorable discharge from the service, "how much confinement, hard labor or forfeiture, I don't know."

Findings of the CID and of the pre-trial hearings are now being reviewed by Maj. Gen. Joseph P. Cleland, commanding general of the Eighteenth Airborne Corps.

Pleads Not Guilty To Woman's Charges

FT. BRAGG, N.C., Nov. 5 (AP)—A Negro officer pleaded innocent today to charges of raping a white woman as his general court martial opened before a court composed of nine fellow officers.

Lt. John R. Griffin, 28, of Memphis, Tenn., is charged with the rape of a corporal's wife on the reservation Oct. 11 following a party.

The alleged attack occurred when the two and [illegible] C. Sloan of Greer, S.C., were returning from a party.

8565

Missouri Court Voids Sentence

JEFFERSON CITY (AMP)— A 20-year sentence was reversed here last week when Missouri Supreme court ruled that law officials used threats of mob violance to get a confession from a man accused of raping a white babysitter.

The court ruled that state highway patrolmen and three county officers used unlawful tactics in getting Jake Bradley to confess to the assault on the 5-year-old babysitter.

8566

Charge by Girl Holds Principal

By A. M. RIVERA JR.

DURHAM, N. C.—Henry A. Hill, principal of an elementary school here, was charged last week of assault on a 13-year-old pupil of his school.

The 51-year-old principal denied the charges made by the girl's mother. Detective Capt. W. E. Gates told the Courier that the girl's identity is being withheld because she is a minor.

Mr. Hill will be tried in Recorder's Court early this week before Judge A. E. Wilson.

According to the complaint, signed by the girl's mother, Hill is alleged to have called her into his office on a pretense of punishing her for misconduct. The girl is reported to have told police that the incident last week was the third time that the school principal had made advances toward her, either in his office or the clothes room of the school.

Hill testified in the Durham equalization suit of 1950 that there was no differential in facilities in the schools here.

they were on their way to school and take them into a nearby woods where he would molest the little girl.

The children live near the Raleigh Golf Association course.

Hughes, said he gave them a nickle or dime each time that he took them into the woods. Deputy Sheriff H. C. Benton stated that an investigation showed that Hughes was the same man who had exposed himself indecently to women golfers on several occasions.

Benton quoted Hughes as saying, "I am a sex maniac and can't help it."

Memphis Officer Accused of Rape At Fort Bragg

By A. M. RIVERA JR.

FORT BRAGG, N. C.—Army authorities charged a 28-year-old Negro officer with the rape of the wife of a white corporal here last week then imposed a rigid news blackout on the identity of the alleged victim and evidence which led to his arrest and imprisonment in the post stockade.

Charged with raping the white soldier's wife is First Lieut. John R. Griffin, of the 758th Field Artillery Battalion, Fort Bragg.

Griffin's home address was listed at 664 Vance Avenue, Memphis, Tenn.

Lieut. Robert D. Cargell, assistant public information officer, told the Courier that Griffin was charged with raping the woman "on a comparatively remote spot on the post en route from a party with Griffin and a white officer, Lieut. John C. Sloan, some time after midnight last Saturday."

THE PIO OFFICER refused to identify the alleged victim stating "it is the policy of the base to protect the name and family of such victims." Cargell said further that "it is not that we are trying to withhold any information, but if information that is a result of the CID's investigation is published now it may or may not be prejudicial to the accused."

The complainant is reported to have told Army authorities that early Monday morning, following a party and immediately after a ride in a car with Griffin and Sloan, that Griffin beat her and raped her while Sloan was "passed out drunk in the back seat of the car."

Cargell said that an examination revealed that the prosecutrix had had sexual intercourse and that she had also been beaten, "but I am not saying that the accused is guilty of either." Sloan refused to give Army authorities a statement, but he was quoted by a Raleigh daily as branding the statements of the alleged rape victim as "not true."

* * *

ASKED TO VERIFY or deny the statement that he was "passed out" when the alleged rape occurred, Sloan replied, "I don't want to make a statement until this thing is cleared up. It is involved."

An investigation is continuing to determine to what extent, if any, Sloan was involved in the alleged incident, Cargell said. The military declined to say what charges are being considered against Sloan but the PIO officer said some charges would probably be brought against the white officer at the conclusion of the investigation.

Efforts to learn something about the party which the white woman attended without her husband were fruitless. Army officials admitted they were equally in the dark, according to their statements regarding the charges against the youthful officer.

Lieutenant Griffin is a former popular graduate of Booker T. Washington High School in Memphis. He attended LeMoyne College as a veteran of World War II. He later re-enlisted and served in Korea.

Lieutenant Griffin also attended West Virginia State College. His family reared him in Memphis.

Obviously, the Griffins and Hooks families, both prominent in the civic and social life of Memphis, have adopted the policy of having nothing to say about the case. Both groups state that they have heard nothing official from military authorities.

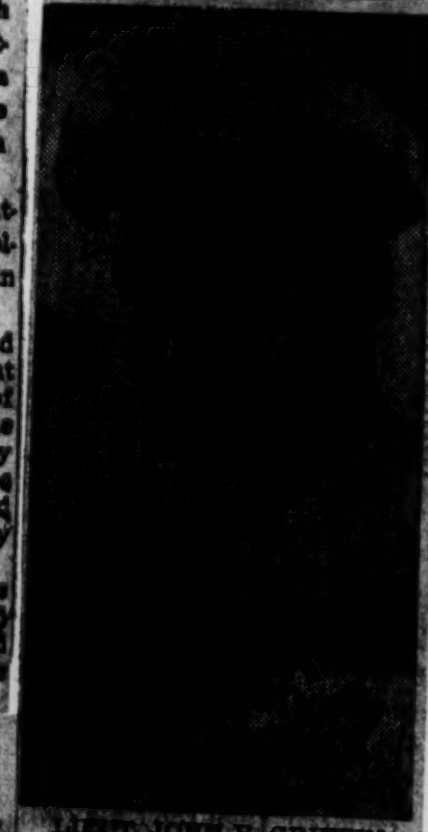
Mrs. Griffin, the lieutenant's wife did say that she had called Fort Bragg, but had received no pertinent information on the charges against her husband.

family of First Lieut. John Griffin of this city, was non-committal regarding the rape charges placed against him at Fort Bragg, N. C.

First Lieutenant Griffin's wife . . . the former Mildred Hooks, a member of one of the city's most prominent families, responded with "no comment" when a reporter called on her last Friday night. She said she took this position because she had received no official communication from the Army relative to the charges against her husband.

THE SAME position was taken by the lieutenant's sister and mother when they were contacted.

Both segments of the Lieutenant's family, on his wife's and his own family's side, were



LIEUT. JOHN R. GRIFFIN
. . . held on rape charge

Man, Held As Molester Of Girl, 7

RALEIGH, N. C. — A father of two children is under $2,500 bail on a morals charge growing out of a complaint that he molested a seven-year-old girl.

The man, W. A. Hughes, 35, white of Cary Route 1, was quoted by police officers saying that he is a "sex maniac." They added that he admitted molesting the girl on four occasions.

Hughes who drives a truck was arrested at a filling station here. According to the officers he would pick up the girl and her nine-year-old brother as

Memphians

Family Is Silent on Rape Case

By NAT D. WILLIAMS

MEMPHIS, Tenn. — The

it does not prejudice the rights of the accused. The time is unusually determined when the defense is prepared.

will face a possible death ce. The Army announced ek that the prose- is a civilian, that the courts of North Carolina try Griffin if they re- d to handle the case. t. J. C. Ritchie and a of four CID agents are gating the allegations. ate of the trial has not et, but Army regulations that the trial be held n as possible as long a

Rumors that the alleged rape touched off racial strife at the post were denied by Army of

Officer faces trial in alleged assault

Second man denies story blonde told military police

FORT BRAGG — Army authorities have promised a speedy trial for First Lt. John R. Griffin, 28, who was arrested Tuesday after the wife of a white corporal had accused him of criminally assaulting her early Sunday following a party.

While declining to reveal the woman's name, an Army spokesman said that in her statement to military police, the woman admitted that she had been riding in an automobile with Lieutenant Griffin and a white officer prior to the alleged assault.

The spokesman said the woman reported that Lt. John C. Sloan, the white officer, had "passed out on the rear seat."

Lieutenant Sloan promptly branded the allegation as "not true" and added, "I don't want to make a statement until this thing has been cleared up. It is involved."

First Reports On Monday

First reports of the alleged incident came Monday when the Army announced that it was investigating the woman's story and that no formal charges had been placed against the officer who was not named at that time.

On Tuesday formal charges were placed against Lieutenant Griffin and he was confined to the stockade to await trial, probably by a court martial since the Army does have jurisdiction in the case.

Both officers involved in the alleged incident are attached to the 758th Field Artillery Battalion. Lieutenant Griffin was identified as a native of Memphis, the home of his wife and mother.

The Army has declined to give the location of the party or say whether the officer was reported to have attended.

Assault trial set for Bragg Officer

FORT BRAGG, N.C. — The trial of a 28-year-old Army lieutenant on charges of criminally assaulting the wife of a white corporal has been set for Nov. 4, authorities here said last week.

Lt. John R. Griffin of Memphis, Tenn., is accused of committing the assault following a midnight party, while the husband of the alleged victim was on guard duty.

In the meantime, the Army failed to reveal the charge brought against a white officer who was with the accused lieutenant, when the alleged attack occurred.

Wife Silent

Lieutenant Griffin's wife, the former Miss Mildred Hooks, a member of one of the most prominent Memphis families, had no statement to make on the charge against her husband, because she had received no official communication from the Army.

Other members of the officer's family were equally non-committal when questioned. Lieutenant Griffin is a former popular graduate of Booker T. Washington high school in Memphis.

He attended LeMoyne college as a veteran of World War II, and later re-enlisted and served in Korea. The officer also attended West Virginia State college.

Pre-trial Hearing

The white officer, Lt. John C. Sloan, will be tried after the commanding general has set a trial date following a pre-trial hearing. He has been under investigation since the accused officer's arrest.

The alleged victim, whose identity has not been revealed, claims Lieutenant Griffin attacked her after she refused his advances. She also said she suffered a severe beating, including two black eyes, during the assault.

She further stated, that Lieutenant Sloan passed out on the back seat of the car in which the assault occurred. This was denied by the officer.

Justice; Black and White In Our State Courts

THOSE WHO FEEL that at some time in the future capital punishment will be abolished should read the following items:

NEW BERN, N. C., Sept. 10—A 17-year old New Bern Negro charged with raping an 11-year old Negro child was permitted to plead guilty to the lesser charge of assault to commit rape in Craven Superior Court today. The child's bloodstained undergarments were offered as evidence that she suffered physical penetration. Judge J. Paul Frizzelle sentenced Smith to not less than 12 nor more than 15 years in the penitentiary.

KENANSVILLE, N. C., Sept. 10—Judge Henry L. Stevens sentenced Robert Hamer to death in the gas chamber after a Duplin County Superior Court jury convicted the 29-year old Negro of rape. The execution was set for September 29th. The jury found Hamer guilty of rape last March of a 17-year old married white woman.

That is justice *black* and *white* in the courts of the land. But for "justice" *black* and *white* as it relates to the Kenansville item, both the electric chair and the gas chamber would be abolished as means of punishment. Neither exists as they relate to cases such as the one that was reported from New Bern.

8567

Schoolgirl, 14, Raped, Beaten, Strangled To Death, and Jammed Into Ash Barrel

Suspects Quizzed In Pennsylvania

Reading, Pa., Jan. 7 (U.P.)—The body of a 14-year-old schoolgirl, wearing only a brassiere, was found jammed in a metal ash barrel in an alley today.

She had been raped, beaten, and strangled.

Associated Press Wirephoto

DOROTHY SCHLAPPIG

Potpie leads to body

The body of Dorothy Schlappig was found in a sitting position in the barrel 7 hours after she left the home of relatives last night to walk to the home of her foster parents.

Detective Lt. Paul Flapikas, heading the investigation, ordered a search of the area to determine whether anyone had heard any screams or sounds of a struggle. Flapikas said several possible suspects were questioned.

The top of the barrel was covered with snow that fell during the time she was missing. Part of a potpie she was carrying in a glass container was scattered about the alley.

Other signs in the alley showed evidence of a fierce struggle. There were many bruises on her body and bloodstains in the barrel.

The girl, who never knew the identity of her real parents, visited the home of her foster parents' son-in-law last night. She left to walk the several blocks to her home.

When she failed to reach home, her foster parents, Mr. and Mrs. Louis Sauber, reported her missing. She was found in the barrel by searchers who followed the trail of scattered food.

Dorothy was a quiet, studious junior-high-school student. She was taken by the Saubers from a legal-aid society.

Suspect, 29, Held

10-Year-Old Raped, Killed

PITTSBURGH, Pa.—A 29-year-old man, Wilbur Witcher, who gave his address as 747 Clarissa Street, is being held by police on a mortal charge in the attack-strangulation death of a 10-year-old Hill District girl.

The girl, Julia Mae Johnson of 8 Sachem Way, was found lying on a cot early Friday morning. She was pronounced dead on arrival at Mercy Hospital.

Dr. R. C. H[illegible], county local pathologist, reported the cause of death as asphyxiation by strangulation. He noted definite signs of a criminal attack on the little girl's body.

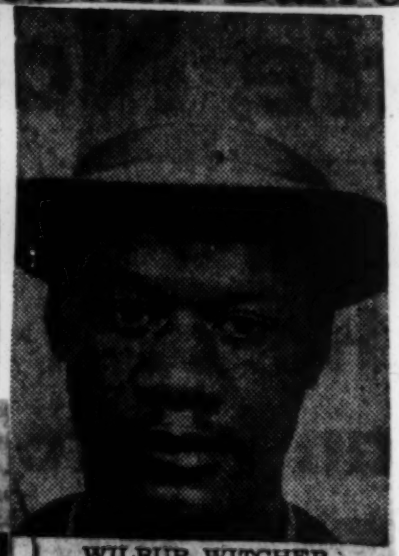
WITCHER was arrested Friday afternoon by a [illegible] patrolman at the corner of Centre Avenue and Crawford. Ed Patrick, the patrolman, said he spied Witcher, the object of an intensive search by police and detectives, playing with four other youngsters.

Witcher was sought by detectives who were led by a tip from Mercy Hospital that a man had received treatment for wounds in the lower portions of his body about forty-five minutes before the death of the youngster was reported.

According to the homicide detectives, led by Capt. James Flynn, Witcher had blood stains on his underwear. Spotches of blood were also found on the mattress in a room at which he supposedly stayed at 1312 Wylie Avenue.

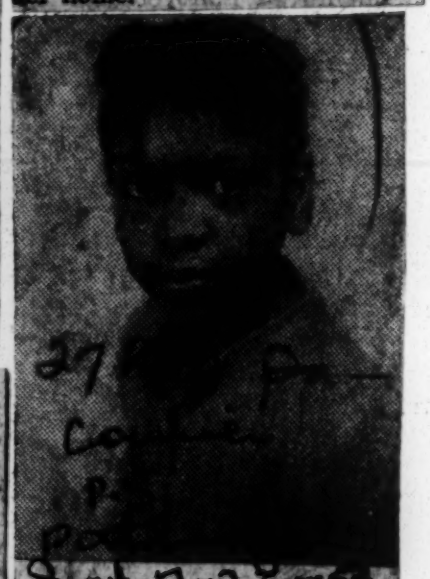
WITCHER'S alibi to police was that he had used the room together with a 42-year-old woman.

The victim was found on a cot which was directly across from her home.



WILBUR WITCHER

. . . held on rape charge



Rape Victim—

Julia Mae Johnson, 10, of Pittsburgh, Pa., was brutally assaulted and then strangled to death last week. Her body was discovered by her sister on a sofa in an alley outside her home. Police have yet to apprehend her killer. Wilbur Witcher, jailed last week for the killing, was released when his alibi was sustained.

8568

CHARGE MAN WITH ASSAULT

SPARTANBURG, S. C.—(INS)—A 24-year-old man was charged Wednesday with criminal assault (rape) on a woman in her home near Spartanburg Saturday, and assault and battery with intent to kill her 13-month-old child.

Robert Lee Dawkins, Negro, 24, is held on the clubbing of the woman when she was alone in her home with her three children Saturday.

The housewife told police the man knocked on her door and, when she answered, began hitting her with a pronged club. She was carrying the baby when she answered the door.

8569

12-Year-Old Boy Accused of Rape

NASHVILLE, Tenn. — Judge Chester K. Hart denied bail to a 12-year-old boy charged with criminal assault (rape) of a white woman in Belle Meade, a suburb of Nashville.

NAACP attorneys, who are conducting the defense of the lad, immediately made preparations to file an appeal with the State Supreme Court.

8570

Armed Rapist Robs Victim

HOUSTON — A terrorist armed with a double barrel derringer raped one woman, robbed both she and her companion and tried to force his way into the home of another Saturday night.

THE RAMPAGE began about 8:45 p.m. when the man knocked on the door of Mrs. Rosmore Valentine, 1704 St. Elma Street. He held the gun in her face and told her to put the lights out. Mrs. Valentine stated that she simply pushed the crazed man from the doorway and slammed the door in his face.

The occupants of the other house were not so fortunate. The man showed up at a residence on Worm Street about 9:30 p.m., and told the three young women who live there that he was sick and needed help. He allegedly told them he would give them some groceries which he left on the corner if they would help him.

FALLING for his hard luck tale, two of the women accompanied him to the corner. There the man pulled the gun and robbed the older woman of $13. After making his flee, he robbed the other woman of $5 and took her to the yard of 1817 Bonnell where he made her lay on the ground as the criminal act. After this the rapist fled, stating that he would kill the 35-year old woman.

ALL OF the women gave the same description of the maniac and police are searching for him throughout the vicinity.

What About The Rapist

AUSTIN — Recently in Austin, a Latin American and several whites had been charged with rape prior to the City election. The entire City Police force and the assistance of interested citizens were solicited in an effort to apprehend a rapist supposedly, a Negro.

The citizens are still asking questions concerning the mysterious Negro rapist reported to have attacked three women in or near the same neighborhood. The whole matter of a Negro rapist broke into the news just a few weeks preceeding the deadline date for entrance into the City Council race. Many of us have watched this rumor with an eagle's eye. We were told by the police assigned to the investigation that one of the women said after the attack the supposed to be Negro walked several feet away and picked up the woman's purse and said, "here is your purse," The woman stood patiently and waited for the return of her purse without screaming or even trying to escape. We thought this one should have been reported to Ripley.

The same kind of rape stories were reported in several Texas cities. Our committee told authorities that this could be a planned affair for some specific purpose, but the police didn't believe us. Therefore, this left the responsibility of finding a rapist squarely upon the shoulders of the Police Department. We have a large force, yet, hundreds of young and middle age Negroes have been investigated and intimidated by the Department, and no clue has been uncovered as of this day.

It was our opinion that this rape scare had some significant political implications. It could have been used most effectively providing we had put a Negro in the City Council race. It is worth noting that since the election the rapist story and reward have disappeared from the front pages of the paper. The $64.00 question is, "Why."

It is not reasonable to believe that so much interest as was indicated by some officials and others would be so suddenly dropped immediately after the City election had been decided. If there ever was a rapist, he is still around, so the reward is still unclaimed. It is no secret that if a Negro had been held for such an offense without sufficient evidence somebody was going to have a lot of fun in court trying to prove him guilty. Such a factor as this will weigh heavily with any one before a foolish step is taken without foundation. In other words, they would have to provide more than merely a SCAPE GOAT.

We don't want any one to misunderstand, we are 100 per cent for the guilty being punished to the extent of the law, but we are 100 percent against the lawabiding punishing the perfectly innocent.

Child Born Day After Assault

HOUSTON — Another Houston woman has been raped. While attending a movie at a Jensen Drive theater, a 15-year-old expectant mother was molested by a sex fiend who later forced her to perform a sexual act with him.

The young married woman told police authorities about her ordeal from a hospital bed at Jefferson Davis Hospital. Her baby was born the following day. The young married woman told investigators that she was sitting in the movie house when a man—later identified as L.J. Johnson, made several attempts to put his hands under her dress. She stated that she asked him to leave her along. When Johnson failed to take heed to the woman's plea she moved to another seat in the theater, but the persistent man followed her.

The victim said that she moved a second time only to find that Johnson took the seat next to her's.

According to the victim's statement to police Johnson told her to get up and leave the theater with him. At the same time he thrust a knife in her back. "I was afraid to do or say anything to anybody," the young victim said.

The woman stated that her attacker forced her into a house in the 2400 block of Jensen Drive. 'I don't know what kind of place it was," the woman sobbed. She said that it was somewhat like a boarding house.

She continued that her attacker did not pay any money to anyone there. "He walked me straight to a room," she said. When an INFORMER reporter asked her if anyone else was in the place she informed that several teenage couples were in the place.

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"I tried to signal them that I was in trouble, but Johnson said that he was going to kill me," the victim told the INFORMER.

"I knew that it was helpless, so I didn't try anymore," she said.

The young woman said that she pleaded with her attacker telling him that he was almost eight months pregnant.

***

The man said that he was aware of the fact that she was.

After Johnson finished the sex act, he left without saying a word to his victim. The young victim of the hideous crime said that she went to her Bill Street home where her mothtr-in-law notified polie.

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Johnson was arrested and jailed on charges of criminal assault.

Several days after the victim's baby was born, she notified The INFORMER that she and the baby were both doing fine.

She also stated that she had seen Johnson before, but she did not know him.

Dallas Arms Against Mad Knife Killer

DALLAS, Tex., Oct. 1 (U.P.) — Hundreds of persons bought guns and barricaded themselves in their homes tonight in fear of a maniac who dragged a housewife under a bridge, ravished her and then cut her throat.

The housewife was believed murdered by a Negro who has been prowling about completely nude and molesting women. The assailant carries a long knife.

The woman murdered last night was pretty Mrs. H. C. Parker, 29, mother of a 4-year-old son. She worked in a 10-cent store because her husband is in a tuberculosis sanitarium.

Police arrested at least four men who were in the area, a northwestern suburb called Walnut Hill, without any apparent business there. In the midst of the search, Mrs. Louis Amos, 35, complained that a man stabbed her and tried to attack her on the eastern outskirts of Dallas.

She said her attacker was a white man and police doubted that he had any connection with Mrs. Parker's murder. Before she died in a policeman's arms, Mrs. Parker managed to gasp: "A Negro man took me under the bridge and cut my throat."

Volunteer posses already had been hunting the nude prowler and today hundreds of persons descended on gun stores to arm themselves. Some were women who wanted pistols small enough to fit into their handbags. Most of the buyers were men who wanted to "protect their families."

Man Held in Rape Of Dallas Woman

DALLAS, Tex. (ANP)—The police chief of Shreveport, La., is holding a Negro whom he said confessed to the rape-slaying of a white Dallas dime-store clerk.

E. G. Huckaby, chief of police at Shreveport, said the man "looks like a mental case and talks like one." The arrest of the man, unidentified, was the first break in the case which aroused Dallas and set off a manhunt over the Southwest. Mrs. H. C. Parker, 29, was raped and found on a Dallas street. Besides being raped, she had been slashed. She died en route to a hospital.

Nude Prowler Nabbed After Release in Killing

By the Associated Press.

DALLAS, Oct. 12—A nude Negro was jailed early today after he was captured by four or five other Negroes in this prowler-jittery city.

Homicide Capt. Will Fritz said he had been released only hours earlier after being questioned in the Sept. 30 rape-slaying of Mrs. H. C. Parker, a pretty dime store clerk.

The fatal attack on Mrs. Parker culminated a series of sex offenses here and several appearances of a naked Negro who entered homes by slitting screens.

The Negroes caught the nude man at a downtown intersection. They held him until officers arrived.

The arrested man claimed that he was in jail on a drunk and disorderly charge at the time of Mrs. Parker's slaying and attack. A check of the records showed he was jailed Sept. 29—the day before the slaying—but there appeared a possibility he had been released a few hours later.

The Negro told officers the other Negroes holding him had stripped him of his clothing. But his clothes were found in a near bundle hidden 25 feet away from the tree under which he had been sitting on a vacant lot.

Dallas police doubt statement of Negro about woman's death

DALLAS, Oct. 6—(AP)—Dallas detectives were investigating the story of a Negro who told Shreveport, La., officers he raped and killed prom. Mrs. H. C. Parker, starting one of the largest manhunts in Dallas history.

But Homicide Capt. Will Fritz said the Negro's incoherent story in some respects conflicted with facts in the brutal slaying of the 29-year-old variety store clerk last Wednesday night.

Fritz said the man told him on the telephone the woman was stabbed in the chest. She died of a throat wound.

Mrs. Parker gasped that she had been attacked by a Negro before she died on her way to a hospital. She was the wife of a tuberculosis victim and the mother of a boy, 4.

Police have arrested more than 100 Negro and white men for questioning. Most were released. Twenty were still held.

Jittery residents had been alarmed earlier by reports of a nude prowler. The Parker killing touched off a rush to buy guns and ammunition as residents armed themselves and began firing at shadows in the night.

The near hysteria was subsiding today. Miss Dorothy Grisham, who handles incoming calls in the police dispatchers office, said overnight prowler reports numbered "only 115."

"That's quite a few," she said, "but is nothing like the 400 calls Friday night or the 500 on Saturday night."

Gun fire was subsiding. No prowler shootings were reported last night. Two prowlers have been hit and several persons have ben wounded with their own guns. None of the injuries has been serious.

On Friday and Saturday night the number of radio cars patrolling the city reached 119. Regular squad cars were supplemented by ham radio operators with a police officer in each car. Civil defense workers also took part in the hunt.

Dallas Vs. Mims

When a young white woman, in her dying gasp, reported a naked black man had raped and slashed her throat the Negro Chamber of Commerce in Dallas immediately joined with other organizations offering a reward for the apprehension of the degenerate who had committed such a heinous crime, but in addition to this, some idea of how thoroughly the black community was aroused and alerted, is shown by the fact that the watchful eye of two Negro men early Monday night last week observed a naked black man standing under a tree, and they immediately proceeded to subdue the suspicious character with clubs. He is now in jail in the city of Dallas, and authorities believe, from the conflicting stories the imprisoned man has told, they have apprehended the murder-rapist of the Dallas woman.

The apprehension of Curtis Coleman, in connection with the rash of raping that has swept the Dallas community, shows what is possible when the total community decides to halt lawlessness and crime. If the Negroes who saw Coleman in the compromising condition in which they found him, had been calloused and indifferent to the situation, nothing would since nothing would have come of his unseemly conduct, in the North Texas metropolis would still be emotionally upset and delerious. Crime can be halted when the total community puts its foot down on lawlessness.

If the whites at Mims, Florida, Christmas night, two years ago, had had the same desire to uphold law and order when Herman Moore and his wife were bombed and murdered in their home, the cowardly assassins who slew this fine man and his wife would now have paid the penalty for their unhuman beastiality. Moore was guilty o nothing more than being black and representing the NAACP, which of course did not meet the approval of the Florida Ku Klux, while the young woman at Dallas was guilty of nothing more than a thousand other women in her city in that she excited the morbidity and liscense of a sex maniac. Both victims were slain, while following a normal and lawful course of existence. We cannot resist the belief that Negroes in Dallas have pointed the way to brotherhood here in the United States. Brutality and lawlessness is not something wholly incident to race or social level, but when the time comes and degenerates over-ride the portals of the law, the total community, irrespective of the race or color of the criminals, should join in their apprehension and trial and conviction.

Suppose Negroes had not whole-heartedly and sincerely joined in this search for the murdered of the dime store clerk in Dallas? If Negroes had not captured this disrobed and naked man down in their section of the city, the entire city on the banks of the Trinity would be hysterical tonight, and white and black women would be afraid to walk the streets. This incident shows how intertwined and interlaced is the fabric of our lives so that the safety of one is inter-dependent upon the other.

Down in Florida and South Carolina where the Ku Klux have been acceptable because of the organization's traditional attitude towards Negroes, the whites are slowly becoming to realize that lawlessness is wrong regardless of the color of the participants. First the Klan whipped Negroes (which every one assumed was all right). But of late the bed sheet cowards are beginning to flog white men and women, which of course, is not according to Hoyle, and reveals evil more in the concrete than ever before.

The shoe pinches when it gets on the wrong foot. Slowly but surely we are beginning to discover in organized society that no one is safe unless everyone is secure. That sort of social picture is not entirely clear to white folk down at Mims, Florida, although the Negroes at Dallas seem to have true vision and perfect understanding on this score. Many white people look upon black people as individuals with immature minds, but in the Dallas experience last week we are reminded of the biblical admonition, "A little child shall lead them."

Signed Confession 'Because Of Fear'

HOUSTON—Marcell L. Garrett, the 19-year-old North Side youth who has been charged with criminally assaulting a 43-year-old white woman, denies the charge and says of a written confession signed in his hand writing, "I signed the statement because I was afraid."

Garrett, who lives with his parents at 2512 Noble St. was arrested Friday afternoon and charged with rape, attempted rape, and two counts of robbery by firearms. Of the four charges, the youth admits committing the robberies, but according to one of his attorneys, Garrett claims he does not have any knowledge of attacking or trying to attack any white women.

Garrett was picked out of a police line-up by two North Side white women, one who said the youth had forced his way into her home Friday morning under the pretense of a newspaper solicitor, and raped her in presence of her two four-year-old granddaughters. Garrett also took $1.75, three watches and a shotgun.

The other woman, who lives in the 1800 block of Campbell Street, said Garrett entered her apartment, and pointing a toy pistol at her, demanded her money. She said she fought off an attempt made by the youth to assault her, but that Garrett was succesful in taking her rings and $1.25 from her purse.

Dexter Catchings, who along with Calvin Grice, have been hired as Garrett's lawyers, said the youth admitted to him that he had committed the robberies, but said he knew nothing of attacking or attempting to attack either of the white women.

Attorney Catchings said his client told him that he feared the police would harm him and thereby signed the written confession. "He said the officers threatened him," Attorney Catchings said.

Of the shotgun found in Garrett's home, Catchings said the youth told him he had purchased it from a friend.

Officers said they found a shotgun, a toy pistol, three watches and three rings in Garrett's home.

Garrett is a student at Jack Yates High School, but W.S. Holland, principal at Yates, said the youth had "enrolled at Yates but never attended."

Mr. Holland said Garrett transferred from Phillis Wheatley High School about 18 months ago, but since that time has not attended his classes. He was in the High Twelfth grade.

Wm. Moore, assistant principal at Wheatley, said that while at Wheatley Garrett did not cause any trouble of any kind.

"He was a member of the "B" basketball team, and just an average student as far as we know," Mr. Moore said.

Garrett is the son of Mrs. Hazel Garrett. Mr. Garrett, Marcell's father, is a longshoreman on leave because of injuries. Mrs. Garrett is an employee of Foley Bros.

Claude Smith Jr. Dies From Bullet Wound After Alleged Rape Attempt

The Story Of An Accused War Vet; How He Lived, And How He Died

By FRANCIS H. MITCHELL

NORFOLK — Claude Smith Jr. was just an ordinary fellow — ordinary, that is, until events of the last eleven years lifted him out of the unknown and made him a sort of special person.

Last week his life story was summarized by [illegible] which told of the alleged attempted rape of a Norfolk housewife on Church street on Tuesday evening.

AND THE FINAL page of Claude Smith's life read, "died, Norfolk Community Hospital, Saturday, Dec. 20, 1952, as a result of gunshot wounds received at the hands of Thomas Welch, part owner of a cleaning establishment, who went to the aid of a screaming woman in an alley.

People reacted differently to the story, but among the reactions, one of sorrow seemed to be missing, for civilized people properly abhor attacks on defenseless females. The community throws up a shield of wrath in the face of a man who attacks a woman.

BUT POSSIBLY CLAUDE Smith Jr., age 32, should be pitied, not hated, for a resume of the past 11 years of his life may convince you that he was somewhat a victim of circumstances — a man made bitter by life.

Eleven years ago this month, Claude Smith Jr. was in the raging holacaust of Pearl Harbor. He had enlisted in the Navy prior to World War II, and was in the Pacific when the Japanese unleashed their furious attack on the unsuspecting fleet on Dec. 7, 1941. Claude Smith Jr., with a couple of years of high school behind him, was there.

AT THE AGE of 21, he had left school, and had joined the Navy — maybe for excitement, travel, steady pay — who knows? He found himself caught up in the malestrom of war, and for about five years served in the Pacific.

Then, before the end of World War II, they shipped him to California, and to a hospital. Physically, he was sound, but in his mind there was trouble. A little extra weight thrown on one side, and the scales were unbalanced.

DISCHARGED FROM the Navy after hospitalization, he began to piece together his life. Despite his advanced age, he returned to Booker T. Washington High School to complete his training. Somewhere along the line he had doubtless learned that a man needed schooling to get along in the world.

He returned to Norfolk, and for hours and days and weeks and months, he was thrown with boys and girls several years younger, but mentally his equal. Who can say what affect this had upon him? But he finished high school and went on the Norfolk Division of Virginia State College.

HE HAD FIRST entered Booker T. in Feb., 1938, dropped out in June, 1939, and again in Oct. He was a below average student at that time, according to school records.

But on his return, he enrolled in 1946 and maintained a B average. In math he maintained an "A" average in algebra and geometry. Tests showed that he had an IQ of 102, well above average.

THEN, WHILE he was at Norfolk Division, his mind played a trick on him, and the ordered life he had led for three or four years became confusion. Picked up by police, he had disrobed in the street and he was sent to jail.

Now, for the first time, his mother, Mrs. Lillie Smith, comes into the picture.

WHEN AN ATTEMPT was made to send her son to Central State Hospital for the mentally insane, at Petersburg, Va., she begged Veterans Administration officials to send him to a VA hospital instead. So Claude Smith was sent to Roanoke, Va., and to a month of electric shock therapy; attempts to restore him to a normal mental state.

HIS DELAYED trip made headlines then, and thousands of people read that an ex-GI had been beaten by policemen in Bedford, Va., and that as a result of his beating he had lost an eye.

According to old newspaper accounts, Claude Smith had gotten on the bus in Roanoke, met some strangers who gave him some whiskey, and was taken off the bus in Bedford, ridden around, blinded in one eye, and returned to the Roanoke hospital in time to be operated on that same evening.

A POLICEMAN said that **he beat the veteran when he** tried to take the sheriff's pistol. They called Mrs. Smith in Delaware, and she fainted when she heard the news — officials at the hospital wanted her permission to remove her son's eye. This was Aug., 1950. Claude Smith Jr. was now known to thousands.

In December, 1950, the half-blinded man was released from the Roanoke hospital again, this time to go to his sister in New York. There, VA officials tried to get him a job to help get his mind settled again. Just as he seemed to be progressing, he had to leave his sister's house to stay with an uncle, and he began to brood, go to the park and read his school books. Claude Smith wanted to go back to school.

A COMPLAINT about his head, and the eye which had been removed took him to a New York hospital, and from there he was returned to Roanoke, early in 1951.

On Feb. 29, 1952, Mrs. Smith got a telegram advising her that her son had failed to return from a pass to Roanoke.

I DON'T THINK so, do you? She called hospital officials to advise them that her son was at home, and asked what she should do.

"IF HE'S all right," the VA advised, "let him stay at home." And stay at home, he did. He received 90-day extensions on his time, and the hospital arranged to send him and his mother living expense money. But another difficulty cropped up to give him trouble again.

It seemed that Claude had some money, money he had saved during his time in service, and some saved while he was in the hospital. He wanted the money but could not get it immediately. A number of weeks were consumed with paper work involving his money, and according to his mother, he became depressed when he could get no definite answer about securing his funds.

THEN CAME THE drinking. Claude's mother admits that anytime he got his hands on money he would drink. "He began running around with a bad gang," she said, "and he drank all the time."

CLAUDE SMITH

MRS. LILLIE SMITH

And the drinking began to bear fruit — ugly fruit, which manifested itself in an argument with his pregnant sister. Then, Mrs. Smith began to worry. She wanted to get her son back into the hospital. She could tell that his mental balance was being disturbed, so she went to the police for help.

ADVISED TO GET a warrant out for her son, she did so, and waited for him to be arrested, but instead, he was moved to his grandmother's house, where he became sick.

rested, stayed in jail a short while and was released. Sunday, Dec. 14, Claude Smith Jr. prayed, then went out. When he returned to the house he had been drinking again, and he was quiet.

Monday, December 15, he helped his mother get the house ready for Christmas.

TUESDAY, DEC. 16, he left the house early. Tuesday subsistence borrowed took $10 to Christmas, Jr. was from the news- again. his sick the power of d about how mother, a mis- bout the Bible. he was ar-

Jr. was released from Norfolk Community hospital. He was on the last leg of his troubled journey through life. His mother sent for him to come home, and he lay in bed working algebra and trigonometry problems. He had always been good at mathematics.

ON VARIOUS pieces of paper he scrawled long lists of figures and problems — maybe trying to prove to himself that his mind was still

good. And he thought about God, reading and copying portions of Scripture.

"Cosine of 32 degrees 30 minutes equals..." he wrote. "It is not a thought of a actual happening but a thought of a supernatural happening when the good Lord answers you..." he wrote.

cook got his $10, his mother for him for Christmas. save for him and Claude Smith prayer; talked about much his grandmother sionary, knew about

DEC. 10, 1952, the ex-Navy **DEC.** 12, 1952, he left **DEC.** 16, 1952, he left the house early. Tuesday

night, 11 years and nine days after his first taste of violence at Pearl Harbor, Claude Smith Jr. was mortally wounded. Four days later he was dead.

Who is to say what moved him to the final act of violence that caused his death. Result of his mental illness which began during five long years in the Pacific? Possibly so. Result of the beating in Bedford, Va., when he lost an eye? Possibly so.

RESULT OF HIS desire to go back to school? Who can say? Result of frustration about his money? Who can tell? Or was he a man determined to make society pay for his trouble? I don't know. For Claude Smith Jr., did not discuss that fateful Tuesday with his mother. She asked him to pray and ask forgiveness for his sins, and he said he would. And then he died.

So that is the story of 11 years of a man's life — the story of a seeming eternity of wandering in half-blindness, mental and physical.

ANSWER. HONESTLY, if you can, whether or not you feel Claude Smith Jr., was totally responsible for his actions on Tuesday, Dec. 16, 1952.

And in addition to that, if a sorrowful woman, who has borne 18 children should ask you if she is to blame for her son's behaviour, tell her what you feel in your heart. You see, Mrs. Lillie Smith feels that the death of her son is her fault.

TWO NORFOLK YOUTHS FOUND GUILTY OF HORRIBLE RAPE AND ROBBERY OF CAROLINA WOMAN

Forced Into Wooded Section Where Abnormal Sex Relations Were Performed

THREATENED TO SLASH EYES OUT

TWO MEN FOUND GUILTY IN BRUTAL RAPE .....

NORFOLK, Va.—(ANP)—One of the "most terrible" cases in police history in Norfolk was closed last week when Judge Richard B. Spindle gound Raymond Wilson, 19, and Elliott Jones, 24, guilty of rape and robbery.

The crowded courtroom heard a 25-year-old South Carolina farm woman, who had been in Norfolk only "three or four weeks," testify that she was forced at the point of a knife to go with her captors to a wooded section in the rear of Roberts Park.

She was raped twice by her three captors, she said, and after they had also had abnormal relations with her, they attempted to cut her eyes out so they could not be identified.

The victim told the court that she had met one of her captors, Elliott Jones, about a week before when she was buying a soda in a Church street establishment. She said he walked over, offered to pay for her drink, and that she refused. She also said Jones told her he wanted her to meet his "blind mother and father who weighed over 200 pounds."

She said the next time she saw Jones, she was standing in front of the Booker T. Theatre looking at the advertisement when Jones walked up behind her, put a knife to her throat, and told her not to scream or call for help or he would kill her.

She said he walked to the bus stop with Jones and two other men who had come up, and that the pair boarded a bus.

"We got off the bus at some brick building," she told the court, "and went down a highway and turned off into a tramway 'railroad.'"

The girl said she was finally blindfolded with a handkerchief and led farther down into the woods, where her bracelet, engagement ring, watch and billfold were taken.

She was stripped of her clothing, the men made her lie down, she said, and each had intercourse with her twice.

She testified that the men covered her with brush, stood on her and kicked her, then left. She added that she later heard some children in the bushes, that she grouped around for her clothes, then called for help.

A police officer, who answered the call to go to Roberts Park, testified that he found the victim on the sidewalks partially clad. She wore a bloody half slip, a blue suit coat, one shoe, and a blood stained pair of panties when she was admitted to Norfolk Community hospital.

not mentioned until she asked about it and he told her "it is parked around the corner and I want to leave."

The policewoman also testified that Mr. Smith had been drinking at the time of the alleged incident. He also denied that charge.

Smith appeals molesting fine

D.C. man accused by Virignia woman

RICHMOND

Found guilty and fined $25 in police court Thursday on charges of molesting a policewoman on Oct. 30, John M. Smith, professor of education at Virginia Union university, has noted an appeal to Hustings Court.

Mr. Smith, who gave his address as Washington, denied the story told the court by the policewoman, Mrs. Betty A. Kelly, white, who said she arrested Mr. Smith after he had twice asked her to get into his car.

Denies Making Requests

The defendant denied having made any such requests of the woman, adding that his car was

Ex-Con Held For Attempt Rape Charge

MONTGOMERY, Ala. — A 27-year-old service station attendant is being held here at Kilby prison this week on charges of attempted rape and burglary.

Police announced that William Fikes, a paroled convict who lives at Ma[illegible] had admitted several of a series of attacks on white women in Selma, Ala. Capt. Wilson Baker, head of the Selma police force, said Fikes also admitted entering the homes of two women in 1948.

Reward totaling $1,300 had been offered after a [illegible] attempted attacks, and after the rape of a white woman at Selma, March 18. Baker said Fikes did not admit the March 18 attack.

Fikes was arrested May 2 after a 17-year-old student became suspicious and trailed him for several minutes before calling officers. Fikes was convicted of burglary in 1949 and sentenced to six years in prison. He was paroled Jan 12, 1951, in the last days of the administration of ex-Gov. James E. Folsom.

Mother Charges Husband With Rape Of Daughter

LINEVILLE, Ala., Dec. 30 (AP) —Sheriff D. C. Little today said that a 23-year-old hardware store employe had been charged with carnal knowledge and rape of his 12-year-old stepdaughter.

The sheriff said the charges were placed against Charles Tillis, Lineville, by the girl's mother. Tillis was arrested by Deputy Sheriff Sam King after the warrant was issued.

Deputy King said the girl told her mother that her stepfather threatened to kill her if she told anyone of the alleged assault.

The mother works in a pants factory.

At Opp—

Attacker sets woman afire

OPP, Ala., Sept. 1—(AP)—A vicious attacker who set a young school teacher's clothes aflame with his cigaret lighter after his assault attempt failed, eluded bloodhounds, police and hundreds of boiling-mad townspeople here this morning.

The 25-year-old victim, identified as Mrs. Munroe Nix, fled screaming through her yard with her clothes blazing after the unidentified man attacked her at her home in Opp.

A neighbor's son tackled the hysterical woman, ripped the burning material from her back, and beat out the flames.

Mrs. Nix received only minor burns, but her neck was badly seared by a rope which the attacker twisted around her when she entered her darkened home.

HUNDREDS OF ANGRY citizens from Opp and nearby communities swarmed into the search with local lawmen and highway patrolmen after the attack about 7:15 last night.

Bloodhounds, leading the army of searchers, picked up a trail, and bayed after it through dense underbrush two miles west of Opp, but lost the scent soon after midnight.

Mrs. Nix told Police Chief Davis Eiland and Covington County Sheriff Cliff Meredith that she thought from his voice that her attacker was a white man.

Throttled from behind by the rope, the teacher never saw the man in the struggle.

SHE SAID SHE was finally thrown down on the kitchen floor but continued to resist.

"All right then damn you," she quoted the man as saying when she continued to struggle, "I'm going to burn you then."

She said he kept her pinned down on the floor while he put the lighter to her clothing. She either freed herself or was turned loose and ran from the house.

Officers said a patch about 12 inches in diameter was burned in her clothing.

Her husband was due home from work shortly before the attack occurred.

Chief Eiland said more than 100 cars followed the manhunt, and "several hundred" people took part in the search.

Relates threats—

Woman tells police trio attacked her

A 42-year-old cafe employe told police she was kidnaped last night on the Cullman-hwy by three men who slugged her and then took turns attacking her.

The woman said she pleaded for her life before the trio agreed to free her downtown after she had been carried to a lonely, wooded spot near Brookside.

The victim said she was standing near the four-lane highway across from a Birmingham tourist court when the out-of-state car bearing the three men stopped. A tall, young blond man leaped out of the car and slammed her against the rear of the vehicle, she said.

Her head was knocked against the car and she almost fainted as the young man shoved her into the rear seat and the car sped away, she said.

IT WAS SHORTLY before 10 p.m. when she was picked up, she told officers, and she was forced down in the rear seat. The car turned off the Cullman-hwy, she continued, "and after what seemed like hours it stopped."

"The blond fellow had a knife and held it against me. He kept threatening to kill me. As soon as the car stopped, the two men in the front seat jumped out and ran around to the back seat. They all attacked me there.

"Then they talked a lot about what they were going to do. They said they needed some beer. They kept saying they were going to kill me.

"I kept pleading and begging with them to let me go. Everytime I tried to get out of the car, one of them would push me down again.

"I thought that I was gone for sure. I just knew they would kill me."

"I finally convinced them if they would take me back to town I would find some beer for them, even though it was Sunday.

"They dropped me off at Fifth and 19th-st, n, and then the car sped away fast while I rushed to get hold of some police."

While telling her story to officers, the woman showed them a pocket knife. It was the one held on her, she said, and she had filched it from the back seat of the car just before she was let out, she told officers.

She added, "I'm not sure where I was. We made so many twists and turns, but once I saw a sign that said Brookside."

The woman said she was waiting for "my date" when the car stopped at her side.

Three Mobile Youths Face Rape Charges

MOBILE, Ala., Sept. 21 (AP)— Three youths charged with raping a 15-year-old high school girl waived preliminary examination in [illegible] today and were bound over to the County Grand Jury.

The three were [illegible] Alvin Logan, 20, Spring Hill lifeguard, and Huey Brannan, 17, and Gerald Speese, 15, both of Mobile.

Their bonds were fixed at $2,000 each.

Deputy Sheriff Jeroman Blake said the girl told [illegible] picked her up at her home, drove her to a wooded area near the municipal [illegible] and attacked her.

Blake said the [illegible] had confessed orally to the attack.

Woman Claims She Was Raped In Birmingham

BIRMINGHAM, Nov. 14 (AP)—A 34-year-old woman found unconscious alongside railroad tracks near here today told police two men kidnaped and beat her, and one of the three raped her.

She was taken to a Birmingham hospital, where attendants said she [illegible] from shock, exposure, a back injury and possible broken bones.

Officers said she was unable to give a description of the three men. They quoted her as saying the [illegible] up in a fight [illegible] had had with her husband.

The woman was spotted lying alongside the tracks at nearby Newcastle by crewmen of the Louisville and Nashville Railroad's Azalea streamliner.

Two Are Held In Huntsville Attack Case

HUNTSVILLE, Nov. 20 (AP)— Two young men were held and a third man was hunted by officers today after a 19-year-old woman said she was beaten and criminally attacked.

The officer said Kenneth Gold, 21-year-old soldier, and Kenneth Childress, 17, were being held without charge in the alleged attack last night. They are brothers-in-law.

The hunted man is a 19-year-old West Huntsville resident.

Circuit Solicitor Glenn Manning said the woman related that after she entered the car with the men, they drove down the old Triana Road near here. Manning said she gave this story:

Gold and the hunted man rolled Childress, who appeared to be drunk, out of the car. When they attempted to pull her out and she resisted they slapped and hit her.

Gold and the other youth attacked her on the front seat of the car and then drove to Huntsville Park and put her out.

Sheriff Cecil Sanderson said the woman had been beaten on her head and shoulders, and her clothing torn.

Attack attempted on six-year-old girl

GADSDEN, Ala., Dec. 10 (AP) —Police Chief Fay Bowman said a white man attempted to rape a 6-year-old girl here yesterday.

Bowman said the man picked the child up on a West Gadsden street as she was returning home from school. The chief added that the girl was driven in an automobile to a nearby mountain where the alleged attempt was made.

The child later was released near her home. A physician who examined her at a hospital said there had been an attempt to rape her.

Attacker Sets Alabama Teacher's Clothes Afire, Eludes Cops, Hounds

By the Associated Press.

OPP, Ala., Sept. 1.—A vicious attacker who set a young school teacher's clothes aflame with his cigaret lighter after he failed to rape her, eluded bloodhounds, police and hundreds of townspeople today.

The 25-year-old married woman fled screaming through her yard with her clothing flaming after the unidentified man attacked her in her home in this south Alabama town.

A neighbor's son stripped off the burning clothing.

The woman received only minor burns, but her neck was badly seared by the rope which the attacker twisted around her when she entered her darkened home.

Hundreds of county citizens from Opp and nearby communities swarmed into the search with police after the attack last night. Bloodhounds picked up a trail in underbrush two miles west of here, but lost the scent soon after midnight.

Throttled from behind by the rope, the teacher never saw the man in the struggle, but the sound of his voice led her to believe he was a white man.

She said she was finally thrown to the kitchen floor but continued to resist.

"All right, then, damn you," she quoted the man, "I'm going to burn you then."

She said he kept her pinned down on the floor while he put the cigaret lighter to her clothing. She either freed herself or was turned loose and ran from the house.

Her husband was due home from work shortly before the attack occurred.

8573

ATTACKER SHOT, SEIZED

Mother Tortured, Slain, Husband Bound Nearby

HOLBROOK, Ariz., Dec. 2 (AP)—A 22-year-old mother was tortured, raped and choked to death in a house trailer at the edge of [illegible] Highway 66 today as her husband lay tied hand and foot and her 2-year-old son slept undisturbed.

The husband, after listening to his wife's anguished screams for five hours, broke loose and found her [illegible]

Mrs. Betty Faye Allen of Wattsburg, Pa., died on the floor of the 30-foot, four-room trailer in which she and her family were traveling to California.

Her hair and body had been burned by her torturer. A sheet was knotted around her neck, her hands and feet were tied.

Her husband, Raymond, 25, a machine tool repairman, was shocked into a state of near collapse by the night of horror.

A [illegible] Carl J. Folk, 60, of Clovis, N. M., a 6-foot, 215-pound carnival [illegible] as the killer. He is in a hospital here with the bullet wound.

The sheriff's office said Folk is the same man who tied a girl to a tree and raped her in New Mexico in 1949. He was committed to an insane asylum and later released, officers added.

MEETS FOLK

Allen told sheriff's deputies that he first saw Folk while stopping near Albuquerque, N. M., about 10 a.m. yesterday. They exchanged casual words in the manner of tourists.

But as the day wore on and they moved westward, Allen said he realized that repeatedly Folk's car would pass the trailer, drop back and pass again.

The Allens stopped for the night 14½ miles east of here, ate at a cafe and retired to their trailer a few hundred yards away.

About 10 p.m., Allen related in broken tones at a coroner's inquest, a man entered the unlocked trailer door and said, "This is a holdup. Tell me where the money is and everythiig will be all right."

"But my only thought was to get back to the trailer. I tried to give my wife artificial respiration but it was no use."

She had died of strangulation about the time her husband escaped from the trailer.

right."

It was learned later that the man was carrying a toy gun.

Allen told the intruder that he could find $19 in his trouser pockets.

Then the holdup man tied Allen and his wife.

Allen said the man hooked the trailer to the pickup truck and drove a short distance. Then he returned and attacked Mrs. Allen. The man started to drive the trailer away a second time and bogged down in a ditch.

Again he came back to the trailer and began torturing Mrs. Allen.

"I thought he was going to be burning her with newspapers soaked in kerosene," Allen said. "It made a big flame."

FREES FEET

Allen freed his feet about midnight but the man he said he now recognized as Folk discovered it and rebound him.

"All the time I was tied up my wife was screaming," Allen said.

About 5:45 a.m. Allen again freed his feet and stumbled from the trailer to the highway, his hands tied. Folk still was in the trailer.

Allen hailed a passing truck driver, mumbled "There's trouble in my trailer" and headed back to the trailer.

The driver, C. J. Rice of Wichita, Kan., stopped two other drivers and they followed Allen.

As they neared the trailer, Allen fired six shots as Folk ran around the corner of the trailer. Folk continued 200 yards down the road before falling.

"I thought I hit him six times," Allen said later.

Man, 60, accused in assault, slaying, nabbed: won't talk

HOLBROOK, Ariz., Dec. 3—(AP)—Carl J. Folk, a 60-year-old, 215-pound carnival owner, refused to talk today in a local hospital after being charged with the rape-slaying of a woman while her husband lay bound and gagged nearby.

Folk was accused of killing Mrs. Betty Faye Allen of Wattsburg, Pa., 22, in a trailer here.

Her husband, Raymond, 25, a machine tool repairman, spent a night of horror while tied hand and foot in the trailer and listening to his wife's screams.

He finally wiggled loose and shot the assailant in the stomach. Folk's condition is not regarded as serious.

Investigating officers said Mrs. Allen's hair and body had been burned by her tormentor. Her hands and feet were tied and there was a sheet knotted around her neck.

MEANWHILE, the Allen's 2-year-old son slept undisturbed in the trailer.

It was reported from Albuquerque, N. M., that Folk is under a five-year suspended sentence in connection with the raping of a young girl. After being committed to the insane asylum, he was released a few weeks later on a convalescent parole.

Sheriff's deputies were informed by Allen that he had a brief chat with Folk yesterday morning when both were stopped at a service station enroute westward.

Allen said thereafter he noticed Folk's car repeatedly passing his trailer, dropping back and then passing again.

ALLEN PARKED his four-room trailer at the edge of U. S. Highway 66, east of Holbrook, to put up for the night.

At a coroner's inquest he said that about 10 p.m. a man barged into the unlocked trailer. He said "this is a holdup. Tell me where the money is and everything will be all right."

The holdup man then tied Allen and his wife.

After a night of torture, Allen broke the rope strands, stumbled from the trailer and hailed a passing truck driver.

Two other drivers joined Allen and his companion as they headed toward the trailer. Allen said he reentered the trailer, seized one of his two guns, and went in pursuit of the fleeing Folk.

Allen said he fired six times but Folk ran about 200 yards before dropping.

On Route 66 in Arizona

Tourist Bound by Stranger, Sees Wife Slain in Trailer

Special to the Herald Tribune

HOLBROOK, Ariz., Dec. 5.—Carl J. Folk, sixty, a Clovis, N. M., carnival owner and alleged rape-slayer of a young Pennsylvania mother, underwent an operation today to remove a bullet fired by the victim's husband.

Folk was shot in the upper stomach early Wednesday by Raymond Allen, twenty-five, of Wattsburg, Pa., after Mr. Allen's wife, Betty Faye Allen, twenty-two, had been raped, tortured and strangled in their trailer.

Folk was formally charged yesterday with first degree murder in a case which has aroused widespread indignation throughout the Southwest.

Mr. Allen, who had been a maintenance man in a General Electric Co. plant in Erie, Pa., six miles from his home, left there two weeks ago with his wife and their ten months' old son for California, where he planned to find a new job. He gave authorities this story:

He first encountered Folk about 10 a. m. Tuesday, when his car and Folk's were stopped at Cline's Corner, near Albuquerque, N. M. He said Folk's car thereafter passed him several times during the day, each time dropping back to let him repass.

Mr. Allen and his wife stopped for the night at Good Water Station, east of Holbrook on U. S. 66, about 9:30 o'clock. They turned off the lights in the trailer about 10 p. m.

About an hour later, Mr. Allen said, a man entered the trailer and repeated several times: "This is a holdup." The man bound Mr. and Mrs. Allen's hands and feet and covered their heads with blankets.

"Tell me where the money is, and everything will be all right," Mr. Allen quoted the intruder as saying. He said he told the man where the money could be found.

Folk then hooked the trailer to Mr. Allen's pickup truck and drove a short distance, after which he returned to the trailer and attacked Mrs. Allen. Mr. Allen told of listening to his wife's cries as he struggled to free himself from his bonds. He said he finally got his feet free about 5 a. m., and by that time his wife's cries were barely audible.

He said he escaped from the trailer and flagged down a truck driver on U. S. 66. The truck driver, C. J. Rice, of Wichita, Kan., said Mr. Allen mumbled "something about trouble in the trailer" and went back toward the trailer.

Pursuer Fires 6 Shots

Mr. Rice stopped two other truck drivers, and the three of them went to the trailer. As they approached, they saw one man chasing another. The pursuer fired six shots, and the other man continued for another 200 yards before collapsing. Mr. Allen told the truck drivers he had returned to the trailer for his gun and had taken Folk by surprise.

The drivers found Mrs. Allen's [illegible]nued body in the aisle of the trailer's sleeping compartment. Her hands and feet were bound, and she had been garroted with a sheet.

The truck drivers rushed Folk to Holbrook Hospital in serious condition. Sheriff's officers found on him $18 in cash and $80 in traveler's checks made out to Mr. Allen.

The Allen's baby Charles, who was in the trailer during the night's ordeal, was unharmed.

27h(2) 1953

Arkansas

8574

Charge Truck Driver Raped Ark. Girl, 7

LITTLE ROCK, Ark.—A 38-year-old white truckdriver is free on $2,500 bond after police booked him for "carnal abuse" of a seven-year-old girl at Parkdale.

Jesse Watts of Vicksburg is accused of snatching the girl into his truck and raping her while a shocked three-year-old boy watched. Watts will go on trial in March.

Mrs. L. C. Bates, president of the Arkansas State Conference of NAACP Branches, promised the association would make a thorough probe of the incident.

The terrified girl told her parents and police that Watts forced her and her tiny companion into his truck as they walked down a highway near her home.

After the attack, she ran home bleeding. Police captured the accused man in Greenville, Miss., after elaborate roadblocks and probing. A physician who examined the girl said she was "raped."

Charge Truck Driver Raped 7-Year-Old Girl in Arkansas

PARKDALE, Ark. — Representatives of the State Conference of Branches of the NAACP will be interested spectators next March when Jesse Watts, 38-year-old white truck driver from Vicksburg, Miss., receives a court hearing on a charge of raping a 7-year-old Negro girl a few days before Christmas.

The atrocious case first came to light when relatives of the young victim contacted the NAACP for help in prosecuting Watts.

The attack allegedly took place last Dec. 21 in the afternoon as the girl and a 3-year-old companion walked down the main highway outside Parkdale.

According to the statements collected by police, Watts, driving a truck, pulled along side of the children, pulled the little girl into the cab of the truck and raped here as the terrified boy companion looked on.

Teh child ran home screaming, and, according to relatives, she was bleeding profusly.

Police set up a roadblock after receiving a description of Watts and his truck, and he was nabbed in Greenville, Miss.

Watts has reportedly admitted abusing the child, but denies staunchly that he raped her. However, a physician at the hospital where the child was taken has labeled the case as "rape."

The driver was charged with carnal abuse and released under $2,500 bond.

Mrs. L. C. Bates, president of the State Conference of Branches of the NAACP, stated that a thorough investigation will be made into the dastardly crime.

27h(2) 1953 California 8575

Women, "under the influence," charge rape

Bizarre story of Mrs. Anita Owens, 25, of 142 E. 56th st., of rape and perversion performed in an automobile by a white man, was questioned by police this week on the basis, they said, of discrepancies in the story and the fact that Mrs. Owens had been drinking heavily. 4-24-53

The woman summoned police to her home at 12:30 a.m. last Thursday, and said that she had been forced into an old model sedan by a white man and driven to 55th and Main, where the attack took place.

Police were also summoned by another distraught woman who said that she had been knocked unconscious in an alleyway, taken to her assailant's home, and attacked.

Making the charge was Willie J. Ingraham, 29, of 930 E. 32nd st., against Mathew R. Woods, Jr., 22, of 1008 E. Adams, a laborer.

Miss Ingraham had also been drinking, said police, and told a story of being pursued by Woods from his mother's home into the alley, where she was knocked out, and carried bodily to 3211½ S. Central.

Woods admitted the intimacy, but not the violence, and said that the woman had not objected, and implicated Charles A. Alexander, 20, of 5010 S. Central, whom he said participated.

Alexander, however, denied everything. Both men were arrested.

27h(2) 1953

D.C.

8576

Maintenance Man Accused Of Rape Try

A maintenance man yesterday was charged with assault with intent to rape a 29-year-old Government worker in her room in the 2100 block of P st. nw.

Police reported they arrested the suspect, Gerald V. Lassiter, 28, at his home at 1422 Meridian pl. nw. They said the woman identified him as her attacker.

Lassiter was ordered held under $3500 bond by United States Commissioner Cyril S. Lawrence, who continued the case to next Wednesday.

The woman reported to police that Lassiter came to her room about 2 a. m. last Wednesday and insisted on testing some wires after telling her the lights in the building were out. He formerly had worked in the building as a maintenance man, police said.

They said the woman finally allowed him to come into her room to look at the wires but fled across the hall after she smelled liquor on his breath.

Lassiter followed her, there was a struggle and she was struck on the jaw, according to police. They said he finally fled when she started to scream.

Boy, 19, Held, Others Sought In Mass Assault on Woman

Police yesterday continued their search for young hoodlums involved in the rape of a 47-year-old woman and a 19-year-old suspect was charged in the mass assault.

The youth, identified as Coleman [illegible] Carr, of 61 O st. nw., was charged with assault with intent to rape and arraigned in Municipal Court. He was ordered held for grand jury action in $1000 bond.

Police Lieut. John L. Sullivan, head of the sex squad, said Carr was the sixth and oldest person arrested thus far. Five younger boys have admitted raping or trying to rape the woman.

Sullivan said 12 or 14 boys are believed to have participated in the attack at the Bundy School Playground. He said the roundup has taken time because some boys were known only by nicknames.

running along the railroad tracks south of Franconia rd. at about 2 p. m., and about 30 police, firemen and citizens fanned out in a search through the area.

The suspect is charged with dragging the girl into woods off Beulah rd. at Windsor Estates Sunday night and criminally assaulting her.

After the attack, police said Reid told the girl: "I'll kill you if you tell anybody."

The child, police reported, fled through the woods and fields to a relative's house, where police were notified.

Posse Nails Fugitive, 23, After Attack On Girl, 10

Two-Day Search In Franconia Area Ended by Police, Firemen, Citizens

Fairfax County police last night reported the capture of a 23-year-old man charged with raping a 10-year-old girl Sunday night.

Police said the suspect, Ernest Reid, of Route 5, Alexandria, was arrested in the Franconia area at about 8 p. m., climaxing a two-day search in which bloodhounds were used in efforts to track the fugitive.

Reid was reported seen earlier

Man Sought In Sex Case Held in Killing

A man sought by police since last August for the rape of a drug store clerk, was arrested early yesterday in a fatal stabbing.

Police said Andrew [illegible] Henderson, formerly of 17 Franklin st. ne., was arrested at the home of his mother several hours after Rufus Fleming, 29, 1611 E. Capitol st., died at Freedmen's Hospital of stab wounds suffered in an altercation in the 1700 block of 14th st. nw. Police said he was identified by witnesses as one of the principals in the fight.

According to police, both Henderson and Fleming had been ordered out of a restaurant a short time before Fleming was stabbed. They said they did not know what led to the fight.

Police said Henderson has been sought since August 8 in the rape of a 23-year-old woman who occupied another apartment at the Franklin st. address. They quoted her as saying she was attacked after Henderson stunned her with a wrench wrapped in cloth.

One Ex-Convict

Two Youths Held as Sex Suspects

A youthful, self-styled former convict was held under $500 bond in Municipal Court yesterday on a charge of assaulting a 33-year-old housewife with intent to rape.

William Morrison, 18, listed by police as living at 124 10th st. nw., was held for grand jury action after he waived a preliminary hearing. Police said he was arrested outside the assault victim's house at 1205-N st. nw. Friday night, about two hours after the woman reported she was attacked.

Police, who said they saw Morrison outside the woman's home while they were investigating her complaint, said the youth admitted he knew the victim but denied the attack. Morrison told them he was a former convict, according to police, and said he once served on a North Carolina chain gang.

A second District rape suspect was arrested in Towson, Md., Friday, after Baltimore County police reported they saw him tampering with the license plates of an automobile. Richard A. Johnson, 22, 116 15th st. ne., waived extradition and was returned to the District to face charges of rape and auto theft.

Johnson, according to Sex Squad detectives, had been sought since December 1 in the rape of a 15-year-old school girl.

Maid Raped By Robber

...a white gunman, thought to be an ex-con, robbed three white women and raped a Negro maid in the Modernistic Motor Court at 3400 Kings Avenue last Friday.

In the office were the owner, Mrs. Charles W. Johnson, and two friends, Mrs. Mary Murtaugh, who operates the Rainbow Court at 3500 Kings Avenue, and Mrs. Gladys Hataway, 3715 Beach Boulevard, all white.

Mrs. Johnson's seven-year-old grandson was asleep in the front bedroom and a 24-year-old maid was asleep in a back bedroom.

Mrs. Johnson told the police the bandit herded her and her two friends into the back room. "When he saw the maid asleep in the bed, his mind seemed to change. He told her to get out in the hall, and he made the three of us lie down on the floor. He said, 'If you look around, I'll kill you'. Then, I knew he was a maniac."

The maid said the man raped her in the hallway.

...for Rape

JACKSONVILLE, Fla. (IP)— A white filling station manager at nearby MacClenny, Baker County, is held in county jail here on a charge of rape upon a 13-year-old Negro girl of that small farming community.

Charlie Morris, 31, of MacClenny, manager of Lyons Service Station at MacClenny, in adjoining Baker County, was arrested on the job last Wednesday by Constable Lonnie Sikes after the victim had identified him.

THEN HE GAVE ME $3--GIRL, 13

Florida man held on attack charge

JACKSONVILLE, Fla. — Charlie Morris, 31, white filling station manager at McClenny, Baker county, was being held without bail in Duval county jail (Jacksonville) last week on a charge of criminally attacking a 13-year-old Baldwin girl.

Police say that the attack took place Tuesday in a woods near Maxwell, Duval county, not far from the girl's Baldwin home. Morris was arrested at his place of business Wednesday by Constable Lonnie Sykes after the girl had identified him as her assailant.

The girl's father, a railroad worker at Baldwin, signed an affidavit before Justice of the Peace Sarah Bryan in Jacksonville leading to the arrest of the suspect.

Tells Story to Officers

Brought to Jacksonville Friday, the girl told her story in the state's attorney's office to County Detective S. H. Hurlbert and Deputies C. A. Alexander and Joe Frigo and Constable Sikes.

The child's mother told officers that the white man came to her home about 3 p.m. Tuesday and asked her if she had a girl who could help his wife shell peas. She told him her two daughters were at the home of their aunt and directed him there.

'Not Suspicious' Of Him

She was not suspicious of the man after he called for her at her aunt's home, the girl told the officers, because "Mama sent him there."

But when he drove his car off the highway south of Maxwell, stopped in the woods and asked her if she had ever had a date, she "got out and ran," the child said.

But the man caught her, she said, threatened to strike her if she did not stop crying and forced her to submit to him.

Says Man Gave Her $3

Following consumation of his act, the girl told officers, Morris handed her $3 in bills, told her to keep two of them, show the other to her mother and tell her that was for shelling peas.

After giving her the money, she said, the man drove her to her home in his car. She clutched the three bills in her hand as she told her story and showed them to the officers.

Immediately after the girl reported the alleged assault to her father, he sent her to Dr. D. B. Bennett, white, for an examination. The doctor reported the case to I. M. Lucas, acting chief of police in Baldwin.

Denies Girl's Charge

Getting wind of the case, Constable Sikes made an investigation, accompanied by the girl and her mother, which led to the girl's identifying the man and his automobile at the filling station.

Morris was arrested and held in Baker county jail until the warrant was issued by Judge Bryan, then was transferred to the jail at Jacksonville.

State's attorney William A. Hallowes 3rd has ordered a formal investigation of the case by the sheriff's office.

Mr. Morris denied the girl's charges.

Girl identifies white assailant

JACKSONVILLE, Fla. — A preliminary hearing has been scheduled for Charles Morris, 31, white resident of nearby MacClenny, charged with criminally assaulting a 13-year-old colored g...

The girl, who identified Morris as her attacker, took deputies to the scene of the assault the day after the attack was perpetrated.

Assault suspect moved; identified by girl, 13

JACKSONVILLE, Fla. — Charles Morris, 31, white, of MacClenny, near Duval County, charged with criminal assault of a 13-year-old girl of Baldwin in this county, was recently handed over to Clay county sheriff's deputies by Duval county officials.

Morris had been lodged in Duval County jail without bond since the Wednesday before pending investigation of the case. When the case was first reported there was a question of whether the alleged crime occurred in Clay or Duval County.

William A. Hallowes, III, state attorney, said sheriff's deputies Joe Frigo and C. A. Alexander, of Duval County, and Will Knight of Clay county visited the spot with the girl where the assault is said to have taken place.

Makes Identification

The officers determined that the location, just off the Long Branch cemetery road, is four miles inside adjoining Clay county.

The girl, who lives in Baldwin, identified the man, officers said, and he was arrested by Duval County Constable Lonnie Sikes.

U.S. Warrant Issued In Miami Rape Case

MIAMI, Oct. 2 (INS)—A federal warrant was issued in Miami today for Joseph H. Asher, who is wanted in Miami on a rape charge.

Assistant U.S. Attorney J. Edward Worton issued the warrant at the request of Florida State Attorney George Brautigam. Worton said that Asher, who disappeared in August with his wife and child, is believed out of the state.

Asher was indicted in Miami in August on charges of raping a 14-year-old Hialeah girl.

He was a disk jockey on a local station, appearing under the name of "Cornbread Joe."

Police Seek Disk Jockey

A federal fugitive warrant was issued Thursday for radio singer Joe [illegible], the "Corn Bread Boy," who is wanted in Miami on a rape charge.

J. Edward Warton, assistant U.S. attorney, authorized the issuance of the warrant at the request of State Atty. George Brautigam.

A complaint filed with United States Commissioner Roger E. Davis charges the former Miami disk jockey with fleeing Florida to avoid prosecution.

Asher's 23-year-old wife and 3-year-old son are believed to be with him.

A statewide search for Asher began Aug. 28 following issuance of a warrant by Peace Justice Edwin Lee Mason charging him with assaulting a 14-year-old Hialeah girl.

Fla. jury convicts blond in assault on young girl

JACKSONVILLE, Fla. — Following 47 minutes of deliberation last week, an all white male jury convicted Charles Morris, 31, white, of criminally assaulting a young colored girl last July 21, in the woods near her home in Duval county.

A recommendation of mercy was returned with the verdict, thus leaving it to the discretion of the presiding judge to impose a sentence of anywhere from one year to life.

The attorney for Morris requested, and was granted, 15 days in which to file motions for a new trial, and sentencing will be delayed pending such action.

Called 'Scheming'

In his argument, State's Attorney William A. Hallowes labeled Morris "a scheming white man with treacherous ideas" and charged that he had lured the 13-year-old girl away from her home with "the ruse, a subterfuge, a bald faced lie" that he needed her to help his wife shell peas.

Hallowes charged that Morris had assaulted the child and denied the defense contention that he (Morris) and the girl "had agreed on a price" and the girl did not resist him.

The trial of Morris came close on the heels of Charles Copeland, 21, colored, of Jacksonville, who was convicted of criminally assaulting a 13-year-old white girl without any recommendation of mercy.

8578

Given 20 Years In Case Involving Schoolgirl, 12

John C. Thompson, 45, operator of a fire extinguisher business, was sentenced Thursday to 20 years in prison on conviction of raping a 12-year-old schoolgirl. Thompson still faces two more rape charges and one sodomy charge involving schoolgirls, according to the solicitor-general's office.

A jury in the Superior Court of Judge Claude Shaw found Thompson guilty after two hours' deliberation. It was his third conviction on similar charges.

Woman Attacked In White Hotel

ATLANTA — A young South Carolina white man last week was bound over to state courts under $1,000 bond in connection with the attempted rape of a young Negro woman at a white hotel.

The suspect is listed by police as J. R. Bowen, 25. Officers said he confessed the alleged attack attempt.

Girl, 14, Says White Man Assaulted Her

The Atlanta branch of the NAACP announced yesterday that an investigation was being made of a 14-year-old girl's claim that she was assaulted by a 30-year-old white man last Saturday.

The girl, a domestic worker, told police last Saturday that she had been assaulted by one of three white men in the apartment of a man she was working for.

However, police said, a Grady medical examination for rape was negative.

NAACP officials said that examinations by two private physicians revealed the girl had sustained lacerations. They were awaiting a further test from the State Crime Laboratory to determine if physical contact had been made.

Investigating NAACP officials said that evidence of statutory rape could not be established because the girl was over 13. The age limit of 13 is applicable.

However, there reportedly is a statute which offers a one to five year prison sentence upon conviction of "enticing or persuading" a child under to 16 to engage in physical contact. This statute declares that 'consent of the child or lack of knowledge of her age is no defense," NAACP officials said.

Dets. W. E. Petty and J. M. Peek said the girl's 13-year-old cousin reportedly seeing the man with the girl and reported it to her mother. There reportedly were three men in the apartment but all denied having bothered the girl, police said.

White Man Is Accused Of Abducting Local Woman

A 38-year-old woman told city detectives that a white man forced her to get in a pick-up truck with him Friday night around 11:15 P. M. on Yonge Street, near Edgewood Avenue, S. E.

Two Atlantans who happened to be passing in an automobile heard the woman scream, chased the truck several blocks and later officers took over the chase and arrested the driver.

The arrested man was identified by City Detectives O. W. Jordan and W. S. Acree as C. T. Ensinger, 41, of 389 Washington St., S. W.

One of the Atlantans who followed the truck in a car told an Atlanta Daily World reporter Saturday that they heard the woman scream and became interested when they noticed a white man with his arms around the woman.

TRAILED TRUCK

[redacted] truck slowed down at a vacant lot near Edgewood Ave., and Cornelia St., and the woman attempted to get out. Ensinger is reported to have pulled her back, but put her out when he saw one of the occupants of the car approaching the truck, and sped away.

The woman got in the car and asked the occupants to carry her home. She had bruises on her face and had been crying. The occupants of the car did not take her home, but continued to trail the truck.

Detectives Jordan and Acree reported they were patrolling on Piedmont Ave. when a city officer told them to also follow the truck which they finally stopped near Capitol Ave., and Mitchell St. "A small amount of whiskey in a bottle was found in the truck and the arrested man was drunk," the officers said.

The detectives quoted the victim as saying she was walking on Edgewood Ave., near Yonge, when the man made her get in the truck.

SEIZE 4 ON RAPE CHARGE; ARREST MOTHER OF ONE

Four 18 year old men and the mother of one of them were being held yesterday by Summerdale police in connection with the alleged rape of a 15 year old Senn High school sofomore. The mother, police said, was arrested for hiding her son and interfering with the investigation.

The men are Thomas Montgomery, 4356 N. Bell av., Martin Seehus, 4845 N. Rockwell av., Charles Wilfong, 4356 N. Bell av., and Thomas Morrissey of 2026 Eastwood av. The woman is Mrs. Pearl Cronick, 40, Montgomery's mother.

Threatened with Knife

The 15 year old girl admitted to Policemen Joseph Kescey and Frank Ryan that she had been intimate on three previous occasions with Montgomery. On Wednesday, she charged, Montgomery forced her at knife point to accompany him and the three other men to his apartment. There, she said, he attacked her twice and then held her while Seehus attacked her.

She told police that she had been walking home with her sister after school when accosted by Montgomery, who was in a car with the three other men. She said he told her to get in the car, that someone wanted to see her, but that she refused.

Montgomery forced her to enter the car, she said, and they drove to his apartment. She said that she refused to accompany them upstairs and tried to escape, but that Montgomery pulled a pocket knife and threatened her with it.

Given Car Fare Home

The attacks, she said, took place in a bedroom of the apartment. Then the men gave her 20 cents for car fare, she added, and warned her not to mention what had happened.

The girl's sister, meanwhile, had reported the incident to her mother, who informed Summerdale police. When the 15 year old girl returned home, she was taken to the station by her mother.

Police said they waited five hours in Montgomery's apartment after Mrs. Cronick told them he was not at home. Suspicious because another of the men had reported talking to Montgomery earlier by phone at the apartment, police found him hiding behind an in-a-door bed.

Three Under Supervision

Capt. Robert Welling of Summerdale police said Montgomery, Seehus, and Wilfong were on probation or supervision from Boys court.

Detective bureau records showed that Montgomery had been given six months' probation April 5, 1951, by Judge Joseph Drucker in Boys court for robbery; on Dec. 8, 1952, Judge Drucker put Montgomery under court supervision for six months on a charge of rape, and last Jan. 28, when Montgomery again appeared before Judge Drucker on a malicious mischief charge, he got another six months' probation.

Wilfong was placed on five years probation May 29, 1952, by Judge Wilbert Crowley in Criminal court on a robbery charge. Seehus was placed under supervision by Judge Drucker last month on a disorderly conduct charge in connection with a street fight near Amundsen High school.

Driver Hunted for Abducting Young Wife

The Chicago area was being searched last night for a motorist who abducted a 17 year old wife from her husband, 19, an air force private, and repeatedly attempted to rape her.

The young woman, Mrs. Julie Chamberlain, an expectant mother, fought off her abductor and escaped from him to telephone police while his car was at a filling station. They were already alerted and searching for her because her husband, put out of the motorist's car by a ruse, already had telephoned them.

On Way to Milwaukee

The husband, Airman John Chamberlain, of New York City, told police he is stationed at Selfridge field, Detroit, and that he and his wife were hitch-hiking to Milwaukee to visit her father, Lew Wallace, 1203 Milwaukee av.

They rode with a truck driver to an unidentified point south of Chicago, where they met the motorist in a restaurant, Chamberlain said. The motorist offered to take them to Milwaukee. After riding two hours, they reached a point later identified as a forest preserve near 73 st. and Brainerd av. The motorist said he thought he had a flat tire and asked Chamberlain to look. When Chamberlain got out of the car, the motorist sped away.

Chamberalin saw the man seize his wife to keep her from leaping from the car and heard her scream. Then the husband telephoned police from a nearby farm house.

Mrs. Chamberalin later telephoned police from the filling station at Willow Springs rd. and Archer av. in Willow Springs. After sherif's police of Bedford Park station arrived, she told how the man had slapped her and attempted to rape her several times, both in and out of the car. She suffered face bruises and a cut lip.

Scratches Attacker's Face

During the wild ride and rape attempts, the victim said, she scratched the attacker's face with her fingernails. Finally, she said, she dissuaded him by faking labor pains. Her child is expected in five months, she told Sgt. Einar Balle.

The kidnaper's car then broke down, Mrs. Chamberlain said, and he obtained a push from a passing motorist to the filling station. There, she stole into the station to phone police, she said. When she told that to the attacker, she added, he drove away.

Mrs. Chamberlain furnished the license number of the car. She described the motorist as about 35, about 5 feet 7 inches tall, and wearing a dark uniform of the kind worn by truck drivers. The car was a 1949 Pontiac, she said.

THREE HUNTED IN KIDNAPING RAPE OF GIRL, 15

North av. police were searching yesterday for three young men who forced a 15 year old Tuley High school pupil into their automobile at Hamlin st. and Grand av. late Wednesday and held her prisoner for an hour while two of the men raped her. The girl said she was walking to the home of a girl friend when two of the men jumped from the car, seized her, and pulled her into the automobile. She said she was pushed out of the car after the assault at Augusta blvd. and Oakley av.

MOTHER OF 2 REPORTS RAPE BY FIVE MEN

Police Hold 2 Partners in West Side Bar

A 26 year old mother of two children told police yesterday that she was imprisoned in the basement of a Chicago av. tavern an draped a total of 10 times by five different men. Afterward, she said, she was raped again by one of the men in his auto.

Austin police last night were holding Tom Harty, 30, of 2301 Grand av., a part owner of the Admiral tavern at 3504 Chicago av., where the attacks occurred, and Louis Mor, 38, of Bensenville, a truck driver who also is a part owner.

Victim Names Harty

The victim identified Harty as one of her assailants. Harty denied the charge. He was to be given a lie detector test. Police said that Mor was not in the tavern at the time of the attacks, which were committed, the woman said, between 12:30 a. m. and about 4 a. m. yesterday.

The woman told police that early in the evening she went to a restaurant at 3948 Chicago av., seeking work as a waitress, but did not take a job because she didn't like the hours.

Walking east in Chicago av., she said, she felt something in one of her shoes and stopped in the Admiral tavern, where she ordered a drink, and took the shoe off.

Shoe Repaired

A man whom she identified as Harty, she said, took the shoe to a shoe shop next door to have the insole glued down and returned it to her. She said she had some conversation with Tom and two other men, one of whom she called "Lou." In the course of the evening, she said, Lou took her to another tavern which he told her was operated by an uncle, seeking a job for her, after which he drove her back to the Admiral.

She said she went to the washroom and when she came out the lights were out in the tavern. She was told she would have to leave by the rear door, she said, because the front door was locked.

Gets License Number

As she walked to the rear door, she said, the man she knew as Lou pushed her down a basement stairway and raped her on a cot in the basement. A moment later, she said, Tom came down and raped her, followed by a man named George, and two other men she did not know by name. Then she said, each of the men raped her again.

After this, she said, the man named Lou forced her into an auto and after driving for a while, raped her again before letting her out of the car at Lincoln and Wrightwood avs. She gave police the license number of the auto.

Then, she said, she telephoned a taxicab company which employes her husband as a driver, and asked the company to have him meet her at the Sheffield av. police station, which he did. She was taken first to Henrotin hospital, and then to the Austin av. police station where she identified Harty.

Reports Rape Kidnap

Police sought two rapists who robbed and attacked a west side housewife after they kidnaped her in her auto when she stopped to investigate minor accident.

from the home of Valentine Michalowski at 2812 W. 26th st.

The woman said the first man who entered her car was about 25, had a thin mustache, and wore a T shirt and dark brown hat. She told police she was unable to describe the second man.

she said, the forced her drove away. was taken hospital. the car the living when her. It had Chicago and said it had minutes earlier

The woman, 25, mother of two children, told police she was on her way from a church meeting in Park Ridge when she stopped at Division st. and Kedzie av., and bumped into hers from the rear.

When she stopped to investigate, she said one of two men in the car said, "We're sorry." Then he took a pistol from his pocket and told her to hand over her money. She gave him $20.

South of Grand av., she said, the kidnaper stopped the car and picked up the second man, who pushed in beside her. He threatened to kill her if she made an outcry, she said. They then drove to an alley in the rear of 644 S. Kedzie avs. Police said they had been abandoned at Chicago and Kedzie avs. where each raped her. Police later found the kidnapers were driving stolen 45 minutes earlier

Queens Mother Raped; 2 Fight Off Attackers

A tall youth broke into an Elmhurst apartment early today and raped a 31-year-old mother while her two small children slept in the next room. Two other women, from the Bronx and Yorkville, fought off attempted assaults during the night.

The Queens mother told police she awoke at 2 a.m. to find the youth, more than six feet tall and about 20 years old, standing by her bedside. He pressed a curved knife, of the type used by shoemakers and linoleum cutters, against her throat.

"Don't scream or I'll cut up your children," the prowler snarled. The frightened mother complied as he ordered her to disrobe, and then climbed into bed with her.

Takes $30.

When he was ready to leave, the slim youth demanded to know where she kept her money. He then took $30 from a dresser in the next room, where the two children, 3 and 6 years old, were sleeping.

"You stay quiet for 10 minutes and cover your head," the rapist ordered as he left. The weeping victim ran screaming to neighbors in the two-family house and called police. She told detectives the man wore tan clothes.

A Bronx housewife fought off her attacker and leaped from a moving car in which she had ben kidnaped.

Yorkville Attack.

And a Yorkville mother of two children fought off two men who tried to attack her in their car in Woodside. She was finally pushed from the car after she kicked a hole through the windshield.

The Bronx victim was on her way home from a shopping trip about 8 p.m. when a car pulled alongside her on Tayes Ave., 50 feet north of Burke Ave. A Negro leaped out, grabbed her and threw her into the back seat of the auto.

While she struggled with her attacker his companion drove the car. The woman fought desperately for about 10 minutes. Then she broke free and jumped from the moving car in front of 677 E. 236th St., Bx., screaming for help.

Residents of the block heard her screams and rushed outside to see what was happening. The kidnap car sped away. Police found the woman's purse at the spot where she was abducted, two miles from where she got away.

With Drinking 'Pals.'

The Yorkville woman told police of the Long Island City station that she had been drinking in a Yorkville tavern. At closing time at 3 a.m., she said, two of her drinking partners offered to take her out for coffee.

The men drove across the Queensboro Bridge and finally parked in Woodside, where they began to tear at her clothes and slugged her in the face. The 33-year-old woman finally kicked through the windshield and the men gave up. They drove her to 37th Ave. and 55th St., Woodside, pushed her out and drove away. The woman, whose husband works nights, was treated at St. John's Hospital, Long Island City, for bruises on the mouth and cuts on her right foot and sent home.

POLICE REPORT 4TH RAPE CASE SINCE MONDAY

The city's fourth rape since Monday was reported to police early yesterday by a 22 year old wife who was forced into an automobile at 115th and Halsted sts.

The victim told police her assailants were armed Negroes about 25 years old. They forced her into the car at gun point, then drove to the vicinity of 127th and Halsted sts. where both men attacked her in the auto.

Put Her Out of Car

The men later put her out of the car and sped away, the victim said. She was treated in Roseland Community hospital.

The other rapes this week were those of a 25 year old mother of two children who was attacked by two men on the west side; the 26 year old mother of two children who was raped by five men in the basement of a west side tavern, and a 64 year old grandmother who was assaulted early Thursday near her southside home as she returned from work.

Seek Car Stolen by Rapists

Police were making a widespread search for the automobile which was stolen by the two men who raped the 25 year old mother early Tuesday as she was on her way home from a church meeting in Park Ridge.

The men tricked the woman into stopping by scraping fenders with her car. They then robbed and raped her, driving away in her car and abandoning a car they had stolen earlier. Half hourly police radio broadcasts yesterday described her car and directed that the policemen who find it summon finger print men to examine the car for clews.

Wants Rewards Offered

In an effort to help police curb such crimes, Ald. Otto Janousek [22d] has said he will ask the city council Wednesday to consider offering a reward for the arrest and conviction of rapists.

Janousek was busy yesterday drawing up the resolution he will present at that time. Among the suggestions it will contain, he said, are the matter be given to the council finance committee for duty and that if approved a board be set up to decide on awarding of rewards.

Urges Council Man on Board

This board should be made up of police officials and at least one member of the city council, Janousek said.

Other city officials said that if such rewards are paid, the money will have to come from funds other than those of the city. The courts have ruled, they said, that use of city funds for reward money is improper and makes the city liable to costly tax suits.

Janousek said he would ask that a study be made to determinte other possible sources of reward money.

8580

Mother Discovers Daughter Attacked As Son's Surprise

GARY, Ind., 'Nov. 13 (AP)—A Gary mother, told by her son that she'd have a surprise today when she got home, arrived at her house to find her daughter's nude body sprawled on a bed.

Detective Sgt. John Martin said the head of the girl, Mary Lou Velchek, 17, was brutally beaten. The Lake County coroner's office reported that she had been raped and strangled.

Martin said the girl's brother, Robert Velchek, 25, dishonorably discharged from the Army recently, was being sought.

The mother, Mrs. Alice Velchek, said Robert told her at breakfast not to return home until 3 p.m., and he'd "have a surprise" for her, Martin said.

Martin said Mrs. Velchek did not know the reason for Robert's dishonorable discharge.

8581

Bracelet and Lighter Lead Police To Laborer Who Raped Widow, 79

27h(2)

Woman Offered Flowers Earlier

A 30-year-old laborer yesterday admitted raping a 79-year-old widow who had given him some flowers as he passed her house last week, police said.

The rape took place Tuesday night in the woman's West Ormsby Street home when the man went back to "talk" with her, he said in a three-page signed statement.

Police charged the man, Jasper Leo Johnson, 1516 W. Ormsby, with rape and burglary. He was arrested at 3 p.m. yesterday as he slept in a warehouse at Peerless Manufacturing Company, 1400 W. Ormsby, where he works.

Lives Alone In House

He was traced through an identification bracelet bearing the name, "Jasper," and a cigarette lighter dropped near the woman's bed. She lives alone in the house.

The widow was treated at General Hospital for bruises on her face and body. Lt. Charles Young and acting Sgt. A. J. Miller of the Homicide Bureau said Johnson told them he might have beaten her but he did not remember.

He said he had drunk 4 pints of wine before he decided to visit the widow, who had cut him a bouquet of her front-yard flowers when he admired them in passing last Friday.

According to Johnson:

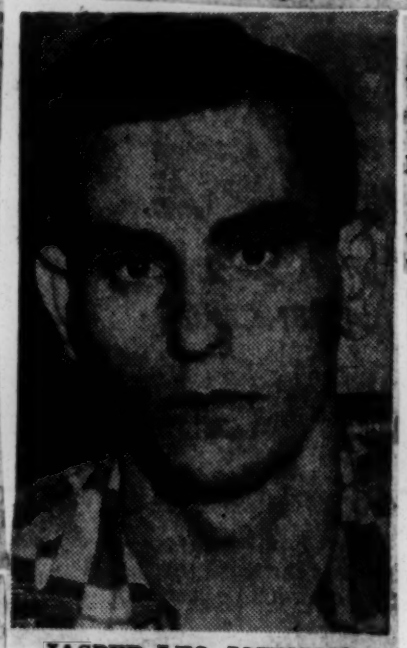
He knocked on the woman's door about 8 p.m. When there was no answer, he went to a rear cellar door and forced it open. A door leading upstairs was unlocked. He found the woman in bed.

She called out, "Who are you?" and he told her he wasn't going to hurt her. He left after committing the assault.

The woman told police she escaped from Johnson by pretending she was "about to die" and needed a drink of water. When he went to get it, she fled to the basement and locked the door. After waiting there some time, she went to a neighbor's home and called police.

Courier-Journal Photos

DROPPED BY BED of widow he later admitted raping, these objects helped police trace Jasper Leo Johnson. At left is lighter. The bracelet bears his first name.



JASPER LEO JOHNSON
Found sleeping in warehouse

Johnson reported for work at Peerless yesterday morning, but left after saying he felt ill.

Meanwhile, police were searching for him on a tip given Detective Edgar Paul. A neighbor, learning of the identification bracelet, informed Paul that a man named Jasper lived in the vicinity.

Served In Indiana Prison

According to police, Johnson said he was released from an Indiana pentitentiary last year after serving four years on a rape charge involving a 15-year-old girl. The offense occurred between New Albany and Jeffersonville. He said he was sentenced to two to 21 years in prison.

Johnson said he was divorced. His only previous arrest here was in January on a charge of tampering with a motor vehicle.

Man Named In Warrant Held for Rape

Police Also Arrest Alleged Victim's Nurse

A man and woman were arrested early yesterday on warrants sworn to by the father of a 67-year-old woman described by police as "mentally incompetent."

Edgar M. Vertrees, 42, of 231 Cecil, was charged with rape, and the woman's nurse, Irene Baker, 48, with disorderly conduct. Vertrees was held without privilege of making bond in Municipal Court. Mrs. Baker's bond was set at $1,000. The cases were continued to Tuesday.

Police gave this account:

Mrs. Baker and the woman met Vertrees in a tavern Tuesday night. The three drank beer there and in another tavern later. Vertrees then drove them to Shawnee Park. Mrs. Baker said she left the car to get a drink of water and when she returned the car was gone.

Police found Vertrees and the woman at 4 a.m. in the car parked in the 100 block of North [illegible].

Man Is Held In Rape Cases

Harold Ore, 23, Bramers Lane, was arrested at 6 p.m. yesterday on two charges of rape. He was picked up while at work on construction of the General Electric plant.

Ore was charged with the rape of a 16-year-old girl July 28 and of a 20-year-old woman Tuesday. Both were offered rides in his truck on Dixie Highway, police said. He admitted having had sex relations with the two, but he denied he raped them, according to Detectives Ed Gutgsell and Ralph Polson.

He was traced through the truck's license numbers, which were noted at the time by the younger girl.

8582

Expert Revealed

Rape Plot Jails Two

HANNVILLE, La.—A 22-year-old white motel operator was charged with having conspired with a 36-year-old Negro construction worker to rape the 26-year-old wife of the white man.

Aubrey Michel Angelette, a World War II veteran at first denied guilt and conspired with Johnny Johnson in the rape, but later broke down and confessed that he had paid the construction worker to rape his wife.

Johnson was arrested last week. The incident reportedly took place on the morning of Oct. 31, 1952.

A lengthy investigation followed a report of the incident by Mrs. Angelette to state police.

Police said an inspection of the motel operated by Angelette revealed peepholes had been put in many of the rooms, some partly owned by Perron, to purchase clothespins.

Perron is said to have closed the door, placed a chain on it, then dragged the child behind a meat counter and assaulted her.

Two Negro police officers assisting in the investigation and arrest were Patrolmen John Raphael and Roland Jeneford.

Victim, 9

Grocer Held In Rape Case

By JOHN E. ROUSSEAU

NEW ORLEANS — Here in Louisiana where capital punishment is inflicted for the crime of rape only when the accused is a Negro, and the victim is white; where no white person has paid the supreme penalty for any type of crime against a Negro in 101 years, Merrick Perron, white, 47-year-old grocer, 3500 Carson Street, Metairie, La., was charged Wednesday night with aggravated rape on a nine-year-old Negro girl in his store at 601 North Rocheblave Street.

First District police arrested Perron following complaint of the child's parents and an examination of the victim by the New Orleans Parish coroner revealed evidence of rape.

The Courier learned that the nine-year-old girl, eldest of seven children, had been sent by her mother to Richard's Grocery which is partly owned by Perron to purchase clothespins Wednesday afternoon.

Grocer Charged With Rape Of 9-Yr.-Old Girl

Sat. 7-4-53

Negro Policemen Aid Investigation

Metairie, La. June 29—(Special)—Merrick Perron, white, 47-year-old grocer of Metairie, La., was charged last week with aggravated rape on a nine-year-old Negro girl in his store.

First District police arrested Perron following complaint of the child's parents and examination of the victim by the New Orleans Parish coroner revealed evidence of rape.

8583

Girl Accuses Baltimore Mayor's Son

BALTIMORE, Aug. 5 — (AP) — Franklin Delano Roosevelt D'Alesandro, 20-year-old son of Baltimore's mayor, was charged today with raping a 13-year-old girl.

The girl and an 11-year-old cousin had told police they were kept in a West Preston Street apartment from July 20 to July 28 by a group of young men who repeatedly assaulted them.

D'Alesandro, whose father returned just today after a 70-day tour of Europe, was put in a police lineup this evening. He was charged half an hour later and released on $10,000 bail.

Three other youths previously had been indicted and another is being sought.

The younger D'Alesandro was released just 20 minutes before his father, Thomas D'Alesandro Jr., arrived at a welcome home banquet.

"I hope that the oldest and most respected law in our country, that a man is innocent until proved guilty, holds good for a mayor's son as well as anyone else," the Democratic mayor said at the banquet.

D'Alesandro Denies Girl's Attack Story

BALTIMORE, Nov. 4 (AP).— The 20-year-old son of Baltimore's mayor, took the witness stand in his own defense today and said he'd never before seen the 14-year-old girl he is accused of raping.

Shortly after the appearance of Franklin Roosevelt D'Alesandro, the trial was called off until Thursday because the judge, W. Conwell Smith, had other commitments.

Young D'Alesandro testified he sought out city officials and police himself when he heard "rumors" that officers were looking for him last July.

In doing so he acted on the advice of his fiancee's father. Testimony of the mayor's son brought out that he plans to marry Ann Jankowski, 20, of Baltimore, and that their engagement will be announced next Christmas when he presents her with a ring.

D'Alesandro related how he went to a police lineup and stood with five other men for two girls, aged 11 and 13 at that time, to try to identify.

He said one of the girls denied knowing him and the other said he was "someone she had seen recently." In the lineup, he was unable to see the girls, and yesterday in court was the first time he had seen the girl he is accused of raping, he testified.

The youthful fiancee also took the stand Miss Jankowski said. "He is a wonderful boy."

D'Alesandro also testified that he was with Miss Jankowski every night of the "most important week" of his life, and either knew none of the other defendants in the case or did at any time go out with them in the company of girls.

All six of those tried before D'Alesandro on moral charges have either been convicted or have pleaded guilty and are awaiting sentencing. Seven others remain to be tried.

The charge sinvolve both of the girls. They are cousins.

Man, 31, held in sex slaying of girl DP, 4

HOLYOKE, Mass., March 17—(AP)—Stephen Ciolek, 31, was charged with murder early today in the death, during a sex attack, of 4-year-old Christine Boblyanski, one of nine children of a displaced Polish family.

Medical Examiner Edmund J. Zielinski reported after an autopsy on the little girl's body just before dawn that she died of "shock due to trauma" (injuries). He added she had been "criminally assaulted."

Police found the girl's mutilated body last night in a vacant apartment in the neighborhood where both the Koblyanskis and Ciolek live.

POLICE said Ciolek led them to Christine's body after he telephoned police headquarters and reported "I just killed someone."

They said he was in a drunken stupor.

Police Sgt. Thomas O'Connor said Ciolek admitted he raped the girl and beat her after he led her to the empty apartment, 50 feet from the Koblyanski home and 50 feet from his own apartment.

Police described Ciolek as married and an unemployed foundry worker.

The Koblyanksis were said to have come here from Europe about three years ago.

SENTENCE PROF TO 3 YEARS FOR CHILD ASSAULT

Cambridge, Mass., Nov. 4 [Special]—George H. G. Jones, 43, former fine arts professor at Lawrence college, Appleton, Wis., yesterday was sentenced to serve 3 to 5 years in prison for indecent assault on a 5 year old girl here.

The incident occurred Sept. 2 while Jones, who is married and the father of one child, was studying for a philosophy doctorate in the Harvard university summer school. He was charged with luring the girl into his apartment. Jones was arrested after the child's mother telephoned police when the girl came home.

Sentence was imposed by Judge Frank E. Smith who sat without a jury in a closed session of Middlesex county superior court. Jones was found guilty on four charges—indecent assault, carnal abuse, open and gross lewdness, and committing an unnatural act —but no sentence was imposed on the latter three. The instructor resigned from the faculty of Lawrence college shortly after his arrest.

8586

Kidnaped Secretary Found in a Daze

By the United Press.

DETROIT, Oct. 26.—An attractive, blue-eyed secretary kidnaped from her home by an armed visitor was found wandering, dazed on the city outskirts today and a man accused as her abductor was arrested.

The girl, Miss Betty Sisk, 24, told police she had been raped repeatedly by her kidnaper at his home. She identified him as Gerald Reakoff, 22, of Hazel Park.

Miss Sisk was dragged screaming from her home about 3 a.m. as her parents watched helplessly. Police said Reakoff, armed with a pistol, entered the home and insisted on taking Miss Sisk to a hospital "because she hurt herself falling from my car."

Instead of taking her to a hospital, Miss Sisk said, Reakoff took her to his home, where he attacked her. After six hours he took her to the city's outskirts and let her out. Police found her and arrested Reakoff at a bar the girl had seen him enter.

Reakoff carried a loaded automatic when arrested.

Miss Fisk said she had had her first date with Reakoff Saturday night and jumped from his car because "he got fresh."

Her parents said Reakoff had tried to see her repeatedly on Sunday but she wouldn't talk to him.

8587

NORRIS IS RELEASED ON ASSAULT CHARGE

GREENWOOD, Miss. (Special) — Summer Lee Norris, who was charged with criminal assault by a Greenwood Negro woman, was released from the county jail after posting a $1,500 bond. He waived a preliminary hearing and his case will be taken before the next term of the grand jury, which is in May.

Norris was alleged to have stopped the woman in the [illegible] section of the city and forced her to enter his car by threatening her with a pistol.

8588

Greenwood Man Held In Rape Of Negress Forced Into His Auto At Gunpoint

GREENWOOD, Miss. (Special)—A 35-year-old white Greenwood automobile mechanic has been lodged in the Leflore county jail here on a complaint charging he raped a young Delta Negro woman after forcing her into his car at gunpoint.

The man, identified by the sheriff's office as Summers Lee Norris, about 35, was arrested Friday by Deputy Sheriff W. A. Shanks in the criminal assault of a woman which she said took place late Wednesday night near Sidon, officers reported today.

The woman told authorities she was forced by the white man to enter his car at the intersection of McLauren and Roosevelt streets in the Negro section of Greenwood, and that he appeared to have been drinking.

She said the man, also at gunpoint, tried to force her to drink some whiskey, but that she only pretended to drink it. She said he drove the car too fast to permit her to escape and went to Sidon, where the alleged assault took place.

Trying to escape one time, she said the man ran and caught her, brought her back to his car, and threatened her life. She said she finally begged him to allow her to get a drink of water and that when she got out of the car, he attempted to run her down, but she ran across a field to a house, where she was taken to a telephone.

Officers said she reported her case to Greenwood police, giving the license number and a description of the car and her assailant. Given the opportunity on two separate occasions to identify the man, she pointed him out both times.

A complete investigation of the case was made by Deputies Shanks and Cothran before an arrest was made, the sheriff's office said.

WHITE MAN CHARGED WITH RAPE OF 11-YEAR-OLD NEGRO GIRL

GREENVILLE, Miss., Jan. 5—(DSN)—A 28-year-old white man, Ernest Singleton, of 551 Louis Avenue was arrested here last Saturday afternoon on a charge of statutory rape of an 11-year-old Negro girl on the levee near the Gravel Company in North Greenville, according to Chief of Police C. A. Hollingsworth.

The white man, who was reported as having committed the act at noon Saturday was arrested by Capt. [illegible] C. Burnley, and Sgt. A. N. [illegible]akin.

According to reports, during questioning by the two officers, Chief Hollingsworth said the white man admitted the act but denied using any force. 1-10-53

Following questioning by the police Singleton was turned over to the county and the case was scheduled to be presented to the Washington County Grand Jury this week.

The young woman told the police that while enroute to the scene of the rape, Harris forced her to drink whiskey from a bottle which he had, and that after he had raped her she attempted to escape and he tried to run her down with his car.
A few days ago, a white man was charged with the rape of a young Negro girl in Greenville, Miss.,in the Delta section of the State.

Advocate
Sat. 2-7-53
Jackson,Miss.

White Man Charged In Second Recent Delta Rape Case

Young Negro Bride Is Gun Point Victim

GREENWOOD, Miss., Feb. 3—(DSN—The second rape case involving a man in the Delta area during the past four days was revealed here last Saturday with the arrest of Sumner Lee Harris, 35-year-old auto mechanic on a charge of criminal assault of a 22 year old Negro woman.
A recent bride, the young Negro woman,after positively identifying the white man as her assaliant,said that she was forced to enter the white man's car at gunpoint and was taken to a point ten miles south of Greenwood where she was raped.

8589

The Callanan-Cohan Case

— An Editorial —

Bernard Callanan and John Cohan have been dismissed from the St. Louis Police Department. They were found guilty of conduct unbecoming an officer in connection with charges of criminal assault involving two women last summer.

This newspaper conducted a vigorous campaign to achieve a full hearing in this case. It achieved that hearing when Charles H. Ostertag, board president announced that all witnesses would be heard and all evidence weighed This announcement by Col. Ostertag represented a reversal on the part of the Board, which had previously announced that the Board would stand by the verdict of the Circuit Court Grand Jury. The jury had failed to vote a true bill in the case.

On September 26, this newspaper disclosed that four key witnesses for the women had not given testimony before that jury. Further, it was discovered that two of the witnesses, whom the circuit attorney's office said they couldn't find, were located by the Argus within 24 hours.

Realizing the serious damage that could be done to race relations in this community by negligent or indifferent handling of the case, this newspaper launched a campaign to secure a full hearing of all witnesses. It felt that only through such a hearing could complete confidence in the police department be restored in the homes of one-eigth of the city's population. At the time of the incident, that confidence had been sorely shaken and was at a low ebb.

This campaign was motivated on the theory that no woman in St. Louis is safe, regardless of her economic or social status, so long as any woman can be molested without sufficient responsible action on the part of proper officials.

In this regard, the St. Louis Argus:

Found and talked with the four witnesses whose testimony we felt vital in achieving an intelligent and fair ruling.

Located one of the women involved, who had since moved from the city, and made her whereabouts available to the Police Department.

Marshalled the indignant views of the women leaders in the community and reflected those views in its news columns.

This newspaper felt strongly that the case had been mishandled in the office of the Circuit Attorney. Under the circumstances, it was imperative that every shred of evidence be presentd to anybody that might sit in judgment on the case. To this end we crusaded.

The St. Louis Argus first raised its voice on July 19, when, under the heading, *"Now They Rape"* it editorialized on the grave conditions existing in the department of law enforcement.

The voice of this newspaper was not stilled when Clark S. Frazier, then an assistant circuit attorney, announced on October 4, that the case was closed. It could not be stilled when four key kitnesses for the women in the case had not been permitted to tell their stories to authorities who would pass judgment in the matter. Nor did it stop crusading when two of its staff members were summoned before the grand jury after this newspaper published stories that the four witnesses had not been called.

The announcement several weeks ago by Col. Ostertag, that a full and open hearing would be conducted, was indeed meritorious. It brought a wholesome and healthy climate into an area of suspicions, evasions and distrusts. The Board's ruling was based on a detailed study of the evidence presented and it further substantiated this newspaper's contention that a fair decision could not be reached until all of the evidence had been heard.

The full and open hearing on the part of the board helped to restore in this community a greater measure of confidence in the conduct of its police department. The decision reached after lengthy deliberation is an example of courage so vitally needed in all areas of municipal leadership.

'Women To Feel Freer' Says NACW

St. Louisans expressed "satisfaction" this week at the outcome of the celebrated Callanan-Cohan assault case which ended in the dismissal of the two officers from the St. Louis Police Department.

The officers, Cpl. Bernard Callanan and Patrolman John Cohan of the Fourth Police District, were fired last Friday by the St. Louis Board of Police Commissioners on charges growing out of the complaint of two Negro women.

Ruling in the case was the four-man board headed by Charles H. Ostertag, president. The other members are Nick Reidy, Daniel Church and Charles Orchard.

Callanan and Cohan, who have denied the charges, have announced their intention to appeal the ruling to the Circuit Court. They had both been under suspension since last July 18, three days following the time of the alleged criminal assault.

The case was marked with a series of incidents and a subsequent clearing of the officers by a Circuit Court grand jury, which heard only a part of the witnesses in behalf of the women.

WHITEWASH ATTEMPT

Indignant Negro women leaders in the community protested what some termed an "attempted whitewash" and made known their positions to the Police Board.

Mrs. Bertha Black Rhoda, president of the St. Louis branch of the National Association of Colored Women, who took the initiative in the protest, this week said, "The women of St. Louis can breathe a little freer since they know that officers must protect them if they are to remain on the police force."

COMMENDS ARGUS

Mrs. Rhoda, an outstanding community leader, stated:

"The St. Louis Argus must be commended for the part it played in getting the St. Louis Board of Police Commissioners to hold a public hearing on 'The Assault Case' of two women of our race which involved Cpl. Bernard J. Callanan and Patrolman John G. Cohan which took place during the month of July.

"The St. Louis Branch of the NACW wanted, since the Grand Jury failed to hear all the witnesses and dismissed the case, that it be reopened and all persons testify in order that justice might be done to all concerned.

"The Board of Police Commissioners after the public hearing of December 4 has this week fired both officers. We feel sure that evidence after careful study must have warranted such action by the Board."

8590

N.J. Nurse Raped At Knifepoint

By the Associated Press

PATERSON, N. J., Oct. 20.—A 21-year-old student nurse was raped at knife point early today by a prowler who entered her room on the fourth floor of the nurses' home of Barnert Memorial Hospital.

The girl told Detective James Smith she was awakened by a Negro with a knife. She pleaded with him, saying her mother had just died and she had to take care of two small children. She said she was too terrified to scream. The prowler ignored her pleas.

Police questioning hospital employees were told that a discharged porter had been seen in the boiler room about an hour before the assault.

Peter Kline, 31, of 68 Clinton St., discharged as a hospital porter two days ago, was picked up, arraigned on a disorderly-person charge and held in $10,000 bail pending further investigation. Police said Kline was released from state prison in June after serving time for a 1947 burglary.

Bloodhounds Spark Bitter Mountain Search For Sex Slayer of Girls Aged 5 and 8

SPRING VALLEY, N. Y., March 9 (AP) — Bloodhounds bayed along wild mountain trails almost within sight of Manhattan's skyscrapers today in a bitter search for the sex slayer of two little girls.

"We will never stop until we break this case," vowed Abe Stern, police chief of nearby Ramapo. "It takes precedence over everything. This was definitely the deed of a sex maniac."

The pitiful bodies of the two attractive children were found yesterday after they disappeared from a snow-blanketed playground at a big privately-financed school for underprivileged children.

BEATEN TO DEATH

The older girl, Marjorie Boudreau, a pretty, brunette 8-year-old, was beaten to death, her skull smashed with a stone or some similar object.

The other, Esther Nagy, a button-cute 5-year-old blonde, was stabbed in the back.

The girls were dressed alike in dungarees, T-shirts, windbreakers, snowsuit pants and tasseled hats with bows under the chin.

Esther's father, Brown Nagy, said his child was sent to the Lakeside School to get her off New York's dangerous streets and keep her safe.

"I'LL KILL HIM"

The father, a Bronx widower, wept hysterically and said of the killer:

"God help me find him. I'll kill him. Why did he have to kill mine?"

Little Esther's gay red boots were missing and were found in blood-soaked grass and leaves about 15 feet from her small body.

The two little girls were struck down about 300 yards apart after they wandered—or were lured—half a mile from a school playground that echoed to the childish cries and laughter of some 35 playmates.

FAILED TO ASSEMBLE

They were missed when they failed to assemble inside with the others for a television session.

Russell Wight, director of the 144-pupil school, broke down in rasping sobs as he told reporters:

"You'll have to excuse me. I have a 6-year-old daughter of my own that lives here and is a pal of these kids. I get to know them all, and it's awfully hard to take."

Marjorie's father is a Staten Island bulldozer operator.

A neighbor said the little girl was one of 16 children and was sent to Lakeside during a temporary separation of her parents.

Quiet Teen-Age Boy Re-Enacts Slaying Of Two Little Girls

NEW CITY, N. Y., March 12 (AP)—A dungaree-clad 16-year-old boy slowly and calmly re-enacted for state police movie cameras today the savage slaying of two little girl classmates.

The boy, Carlton Mason, went through the motions in a woods in the wild Ramapo Mountain area, 25 miles from New York. The murder scene was deep in mud from an overnight rain.

Then Mason was locked up without bail on a first degree murder charge—which carries a mandatory death penalty upon conviction in New York.

"He's as cool as ice water," commented Rockland County Coroner M. J. Moses.

The coroner said the little girls, Esther Nagy, 5, and Marjorie Boudreau, 8, were ravaged by a Sodomite. Mason denied any sexual attack.

Good Behavior Record

A tall, brown - haired lad with a record for quiet, good behavior, Mason is accused of stabbing Esther to death and smashing Marjorie's head with a rock last Sunday.

He allegedly lured Marjorie into the woods from a playground by telling her a house mother at the privately-financed Lakeside School wanted to see her. Little Esther was killed because she insisted with childish stubbornness on tagging along. All three youngsters boarded at Lakeside.

Esther's father in New York swore eternal hatred for young Mason but Marjorie's father said he couldn't bring himself to hate the boy because of his age.

Slayer Finds Body

Mason mingled with a search party after the slayings and pretended to happen on Marjorie's body. He helped others try to revive the child and remove her body from the woods. Esther's body was found later.

Rockland County Dist. Atty. John Skahen said Mason admitted the slayings and quoted the youth as saying:

"I couldn't get rid of Esther. Esther started to cry and I tried to chase her away. I didn't know what to do. I was angry, panicky, so I took out my knife and put it in her back.

"I went around the (brush) pile and met Marjorie. She saw the bloody knife sticking out of my pocket. She screamed. I could not stand her screams. I don't know why, but I picked up a rock and hit her over the head with it."

Knife Proves Undoing

Mason threw the knife in a pool about 150 feet from Esther's body —and that was his undoing.

In questioning the 144 pupils at Lakeside School, investigators concentrated on Mason after he couldn't account for a knife he was known to possess. He told confused stories of having lost it.

Under renewed questioning last night, Mason finally told Sheriff J. Henry Mock:

"I'll take you out and show you where the knife is."

Guided by the thin rays of flashlights, Mason led the sheriff to the ice-crusted pool and helped him recover the weapon, a knife with a 6-inch blade.

Back at the school, Mason continued to protest his innocence for a time but finally gave in with the words:

"I'll tell you what I did."

Sleeps After Telling Story

With his story told, the boy fell asleep on a makeshift bed in the district attorney's office.

Esther's father, Brown Nagy, a stocky New York plumber, was told of the slaying and in a voice breaking with grief and rage said:

"I won't forgive him or forget him as long as I live. I don't care what they do with him. But I know what I'd do to a person who did a thing like that."

The little girl's home was broken up with the death of her mother four years ago from cancer. Nagy said he sent Esther to Lakeside to get her off the streets of the Bronx, which he considered unsafe for a child.

Lakeside is supported by the Edwin Gould Foundation for Children, a New York philanthropic trust set up by the son of financier Jay Gould.

The school is for underprivileged —but not delinquent — children, ages 5 to 18.

Mason was sent to Lakeside in 1951 after his father's death. Like other older students, he went to Spring Valley, N. Y., High School nearby, where he was a freshman.

Hounds Track Sex Maniac Killer of Girls

Spring Valley, N. Y., March 9 (AP)—Bloodhounds covered wild mountain trails almost within sight of Manhattan's skyscrapers today in a search for the sex slayer of two girls.

"We will never stop until we break this case," vowed Abe Stern, police chief of nearby Ramapo. "It takes precedence over everything. This was definitely the deed of a sex maniac."

The bodies of the two children were found yesterday after they disappeared from a snow blanketed playground at Lakeside school, a privately financed school for underprivileged children.

Her Skull Smashed

The older girl, Marjorie Boudreau, 8, was beaten to death, her skull smashed with a stone or similar object. The other, Esther Nagy, 5, was stabbed in the back.

Dr. Maxmillian J. Moses, Rockland county coroner, announced after an autopsy that both children were victims of a savage sodomite, who also tried to strangle them.

The girls were dressed alike in dungarees, T-shirts, windbreakers, snowsuit pants, tasseled hats with bows under the chin.

Find Boots in Grass

The perverted slayer apparently stripped the children of their clothes then carefully redressed them after the attacks.

Esther's red boots were missing and were found in bloodsoaked grass and leaves about 15 feet from her body. The girls were struck down about 300 yards apart after they wandered—or were lured—half a mile from their school playground.

They were missed when they failed to assemble inside with other pupils for a television session.

In New York City, Esther's father, Brown Nagy, 50, a Bronx widower, said his child was sent to the school to get her off the city's dangerous streets. He wept hysterically and said of the killer: "God help me find him. I'll kill him. Why did he have to kill mine?"

One of 16 Children

Marjorie's father is a Staten island bulldozer operator. A neighbor said the girl was one of 16 children and was sent to Lakeside during a temporary separation of her parents.

Police Chief Stern and his aids questioned more than 100 persons, including male employes and older boys at Lakeside.

The Lakeside school is supported by the Edwin Gould Foundation for children, a New York philanthropic trust set up by the late Edwin Gould, son of financier Jay Gould.

Most of the children come from broken homes and are referred by New York's welfare department.

Russell Wight, school director, broke down as he told reporters: "You'll have to excuse me. I have a 6 year old daughter of my own that lives here and is a pal of these kids. I get to know them all, and it's awfully hard to take."

Wight said the children, who range in age from 5 to 18, are taught woodlore in the forest where the girls died. He said the smaller children never were allower to enter the wood alone.

STUDENT TELLS OF SLAYING TWO GIRLS IN WOODS

New City, N. Y., March 12 (AP) —Carleton Mason, 16, admitted today that he lured two girl schoolmates into a wood and killed them, authorities said.

Mason of New York City, denied he attacked the victims sexually but refused to tell his motive, District Atty. John Skehen of Rockland county said.

Coroner M. J. Moses reported that an autopsy showed the girls —Esther Nagy, 5, and Marjorie Boudreau, 8, both of New York City—were victims of sodomy.

Esther was stabbed to death and Marjorie died of a brain hemorrhage, caused by a blow on the head. The autopsy also showed evidence of strangulation in both cases, Moses said.

Helped Carry Body

Mason was a member of a searching party which found Marjorie's body Sunday night, hours after she and Esther disappeared from the playground of an endowed boarding school for underprivileged children.

He helped carry Marjorie's body back to the school and gave her artificial respiration. Esther's body was found later.

Mason was arraigned today on a charge of first degree murder and was held without bail in the Rockland county jail here.

After hours of questioning since suspicion narrowed toward him Monday afternoon, Mason said he enticed the girls from the Lakeside school at South Spring Valley, N. Y., by telling them some one wanted to see them.

Story of Killings

Officials said Mason gave this account:

In the woods about 200 yards from the school, he sent Marjorie off a short distance to see if school supervisors were around. He told Esther to return to the school, but she refused. He then took Esther out of Marjorie's sight and plunged a butcher knife into her back. He hid her body under a fallen tree.

When Marjorie returned, he told her the person who wanted to see her was deeper in the woods, and that Esther had returned to the school. After leading Marjorie about a half mile thru the woods, he hit her on the head with a stone about the size of his fist.

Mason, and another 16 year old whose name was not disclosed, were given lie detector tests Tuesday night. The results have not been announced.

Mason denied thru long questioning that he had knowledge of the slayings. It was discovered that a knife he had was missing, and he maintained he had lost it while throwing it at trees a few weeks ago.

Leads to Knife

Last night, Mason told Sherif J. Henry Mock: "I'll take you out and show you where the knife is." He then led the sherif and a deputy to a water filled ditch about 150 feet from where Esther's body was found. "I threw the knife in there," he said. The sherif pulled it out of the muck.

Taken back to the school, Mason continued to protest his innocence. Brought to the district attorney's office here and questioned further, he finally told investigators: "I'll tell you what I did." His account of the slayings followed.

Mason said he obtained the knife while visiting at a West Nyack, N. Y., stock farm. He told the farmer he would sharpen and polish the knife.

Mason went to Lakeside school from New York City, about 25 miles away, in January, 1951, and this year has been a sofomore at Spring Valley High school.

It was reported his father is dead and that his mother has remarried and is a resident of Akron.

Sex Offenders Grilled In Rape of Young Bride

Queens detectives grilled known sex offenders today in the hope of finding the man who last night raped a young woman wed less than a month.

The victim—a pretty, 21-year-old redhead—wasn't able to give a good description of her attacker, for he grabbed her from behind and placed a newspaper over her face before he raped her.

'— Or I'll Kill You.'

The assault took place in the rain and the dark about 6:20 p.m. She is a clerk for a plastics firm. She had got half a block from her home in Rosedale, on her way back from work, when a man seized her, clapped his hand over her mouth.

"Don't scream," he snarled, "or I'll kil you!"

Into Wooded Area.

She screamed anyway, but he wrestled her into a wooded area off the street. Afterwards, the bride ran home to tell her story to her landlord, who calle dpolice.

Today, more than a dozen sexual degenerates from that part of Queens were quizzed by detectives of the Queens Village squad. Becaus th young woman hadn't got a good look at hr attacker, the detectives admitted they had a tough job.

27h(2) 1953 NEW YORK

8592

Thug Releases Kidnaped Girl After 4 Hours

Police Say Teen-Ager Was Assaulted During Time She Was Captive

NEW YORK, Nov. 13 (AP)—A slender 13-year-old school girl was kidnaped from her bed early today, and held a captive for two hours by a tattooed rapist, police reported.

Later, the child, Dorothea del Longo, was released to shiver in the streets with only a thin blue night gown beneath a coat.

Later in the day, police sent out an alarm for James Palazzola, 26, and said he raped the little girl in a Manhattan hotel where he held her captive.

Palazzola, described as an ex-convict, was said by police to have recently separated from his second wife, the mother of several children.

"Evelyn is responsible for this," Dorothea quoted the man as remarking, in reference to his break-up with his second wife.

"He talked big," the girl said of the kidnaper, who terrorized her family for an hour before he made off with her. "He gave me a big line about taking me to Miami."

Discrepancy In Reports

Police at first quoted hospital reports that the girl was not molested by the kidnaper. Later, however, police said she had been raped. There was no immediate explanation of the discrepancy.

At word that her daughter had been found, Dorothea's mother, Mrs. Bertha Botticelli, burst into tears and cried:

"Thank God."

After she was assaulted, the kidnaper took her on a rambling auto ride through Queens, across the East River from her Manhattan home.

Dorothea said news broadcasts over the car radio of her kidnaping frightened the man. He gave her $3 taxi fare and let her out of the car.

A telephone operator on her way to work, Mrs. Helen Doyle, found the 85-pound teen-ager trembling in the street, too embarrassed in her flimsy night attire to hail a cab. The woman called police.

The kidnaper invaded the modest three-room east side apartment of the child's stepfather, James Botticelli, gaining entrance by posing as "the law."

For an hour, Botticelli told police, the invader terrorized the family, with his hand in his pocket as though holding a gun. Besides Dorothea, another child, Thomas, 10, was asleep. The man found a bottle of wine in the kitchen, and forced Botticelli to sit down and drink a glass with him.

Physician's Wife Routs Attacker

City Worker Held in Queens Car Assault

A 195-pound city highway department employee was accused of felonious assault and attempted rape early today in Queens by a doctor's wife, about 30, who scared her attacker off when she screamed:

"You fool, you. I'm pregnant. Leave me alone."

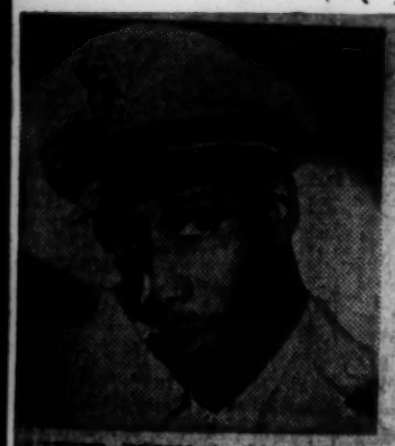
The woman and her husband had attended a medical meeting in Forest Hills Hospital but she left at 1:30 a.m. to drive her own car alone to her home in Douglaston. On Horace Harding Blvd. near Winchester Blvd., she heard a horn blaring behind her.

A car pulled up alongside of her and the driver shouted: "Miss, you dropped your license plate. I'll get it for you." The doctor's wife stopped her car and the man walked up and opened her door. He then tried to drag her out of the automobile to a nearby sand-pit but she screamed and fought him off.

As his car pulled away the woman noted the license number. Two Bayside detectives later arrested her assailant, John G. Amendolare, 28, single, at his home at 116-23 130th St., South Ozone Park. They said he would also be questioned about other recent attacks on women in that area.

Amendolare was arraigned later in Ridgewood Felony Court on the assault and attempted rape charges, and held in $6000 bail for a hearing Friday.

After his appearance before Magistrate J. Irwin Shapiro he was confronted by a 22-year-old telephone operator who fought off an attacker Monday night in her Woodside apartment. She told police Amendolare was not her assailant.



LIEUT. JOHN R. GRIFFIN
... guilty of rape

Army Officer Gets Thirty Years

Courier P.1 27e(2) Pittsburgh, Pa.

By A. M. RIVERA JR.

FORT BRAGG, N. C.—Lieut. John R. Griffin, 28-year-old Memphis-born officer of the 758th Field Artillery Battalion, was sentenced to thirty years imprisonment for the confessed rape of Mrs. Christiana E. Shuster, war bride of a white corporal, following a drinking-dancing party here Oct. 11.

Griffin confessed that he beat and raped the 27-year-old war bride of eight months after she had led him on to a point of no return.

He admitted that at the last minute Mrs. Shuster refused his entreaties and that he struck her and thereby gained her consent.

* * *

MRS. SHUSTER testified that Griffin beat her and raped her four times while she, Griffin and Lieut. John C. Sloan were taking a pre-drawn ride following the party to the residence of friends with whom she planned to spend the night while her husband was on guard duty.

Sloan, who will be tried on Nov. 16 for disorderly conduct, drunkeness and conduct unbecoming an officer, testified that he was in a drunken slumber throughout the assault and had no knowledge of the incident whatsoever.

The nine-member court-martial board, composed of eight Northerners, heard the shapely German woman testify that Lieutenant Griffin who "acted like a gentleman" while they danced, talked and drank at the Gunner's Club, beat and raped her four times for three hours while the South Carolina-born Sloan was "passed out" on the back seat of Griffin's car.

Courier P.4 Pittsburgh, Pa.

PVT. OSCAR BIDDLE, who was in charge of quarters on the morning Mrs. Shuster was brought to headquarters of the 758th Field Artillery Battalion, described her as "pretty well beaten up." He said that she said that she had been fighting for two hours.

Pat. 11-14-53

Harry Groves, Fayetteville attorney, and counsel for the defense, told the Courier that the most damaging evidence against Griffin was his blood-saturated clothing, which was introduced in evidence at the trial.

A report from Camp Gordon, Ga., where the clothing was sent for tests, showed that the blood stains on Griffin's clothing were type A, the same type of Mrs. Shuster.

* * 27e(2)

GRIFFIN HAS O type. Attorney Groves said that Griffin's clothes were so saturated with blood that it was hard to believe that he did not use an extreme amount of force under the circumstances.

Mrs. Shuster is said to have bled from her nose and a cut lip.

On the first day of the trial, Mrs. Shuster told the military court that on the night of Oct. 10. she went to the home of Master Sergeant Robert R. Wright, a friend of her husband.

She denied that she had been drinking at the Wright's or that she had been drinking earlier in the day at a downtown (Fayetteville) spot, but Sergeant Wright testified earlier that she did take some drinks and left with Lieutenant Sloan to change her clothing for dancing.

* * *

THE PROSECUTRIX said that she did not go home to change her clothing, but went to the officers' club where she and Sloan had some drinks and returned to the home of the Wrights.

The brief and disasterous association of Mrs. Shuster and Lieutenant Griffin, according to the victim, began at the officers' club where they met and danced three or four times and exchange amenities.

She testified that Sergeant Wright admonished her to leave the club with him and his wife, but she left with Lieutenant Sloan and Lieutenant Griffin instead.

Sloan was drunk, Mrs. Shuster recalled, "I was intoxicated, but Griffin was not." She told the military court that a few minutes after she had left the club with the two lieutenants, the car stuck in the sand and Lieutenant Griffin was unable to move it.

Mrs. Shuster, who left the club riding with Lieutenant Sloan on the back seat, changed to the front with Griffin where they began to pet, according to Griffin.

* * *

IN GRIFFIN'S signed statement he said that when he was unable to move the car Mrs. Shuster got on the front seat and "we turned on the radio, but couldn't get any music. Cris (Mrs. Shuster) told me about Germany and how nice it was." He quoted her as saying he was wonderful.

"We exchanged kisses," he said, and "she rubbed my neck and blew into my ears. I had reached a passionate point and when she refused to let me have intercourse while still stroking my neck, I slapped her on both sides of her face and had intercourse."

On the second day of the sensational interracial military trial, Defense Attorney Groves put on character witnesses to show that previous to this trouble there had been nothing odd about Griffin's behavior while in mixed company.

Two white officers, one of whom Griffin had been a guest in his home, testified in his defense.

* * *

AT ONE POINT in the testimony of Mrs. Shuster, she said that after Griffin had raped her the third time she asked him if he had ever prayed or been inside a church.

She said Griffin leaned back on the seat of the car and began crying.

Attorney Groves put Mrs. Louise Griffin, mother of the convicted officer, on the stand to testify as to her son's religious background. The small, very small, almost frail fifty-ish looking mother told how her son had been an acolyte in the Episcopal Church where he was later elected an officer in the Young Peoples Association, which is a mixed organization in his native Tennessee.

Lieutenant Griffin's sentence will be reviewed three times, any one of which review might modify the sentence in terms of reducing it, or throwing it out altogether. In no event can either review board increase the punishment imposed at the original court-martial trial.

* * *

THE CASE will be reviewed first here by the commanding general; (2) automatically it will go to Washington where it will be reviewed by a three-man board of review, and (3) the Court of Military Appeal for Review.

Under normal circumstances Griffin will remain at Fort Bragg until the review has been completed in Washington, which may take six months and in all probability he will then be sent to a maximum security installation like Leavenworth to serve out the sentence.

Judge of the nine-man military court which heard the case was Captain Robert Ellert, and president of the Military Court was Colonel W. Baker. Ordinarily, in accordance with military procedure, a verdict can be reached by two-thirds of the court, but since the sentence in this case was ceeded ten years, three-fourths of the court had to be in agreement.

LOOIE ESCAPES DEATH SENTENCE:

Fort Bragg officer gets 30 years at hard labor

FORT BRAGG, N.C. — Lt. John R. Griffin, 28, was sentenced to 30 years hard labor last week, after he admitted he criminally assaulted a German war bride in a car, following a midnight party on Oct. 11.

The young officer from Memphis, Tenn., was also dismissed from the service. He escaped a possible death sentence when the general court-martial board handed down the conviction and sentence. The sentence will be reviewed by the Fort Bragg commander and a review board in Washington.

Mrs. Christiana E. Schuster, 27, a corporal's wife, testified that the officer severely beat her about the face and criminally assaulted her four times in three and one half hours on the Army reservation, while their car was stuck in sand.

The lieutenant stated that he and the woman had talked for some time in the car, while a white officer was asleep on the back seat, and that she had kissed him and encouraged him, but would not submit. He said he slapped her on both sides of the cheek and then had relations with her.

A number of character witnesses was introduced in behalf of the convicted officer, including his mother, who told the board her son had joined church and had been an active worker since his release from the Navy several years ago.

The prosecution introduced witnesses who testified that Mrs. Schuster had been severely beaten about the face on the night of the assault, and also exhibited a torn white shirt worn by Lieutenant Griffin and stained with blood from the victim's nose.

Signed Statement

A statement, signed by the officer, in which he admitted the assault was read. In it he said he was introduced to the woman by Lt. John Sloan, white, the afternoon of Oct. 10, and they had had a drink at the officer's club.

said that the incidents occurred between October 4 and Oct. 16.

The older daughter said that her father had told her to sleep with her younger sister until he came home. She said that when she awoke, she was in her father's room, and he was in bed with her. She said she did not know how she got there.

* * *

THE YOUNGER daughter told police that she was molested by her father while she was preparing for bed.

The father was held in Pitt county jail pending his trial.

Farmer Gets 15 Years On Rape Charge

Judgment Pending On Second Charge Against NC Farmer

GREENVILLE, N. C.

Pleading not guilty to charges of attempting to rape his two young daughters, a 35-year-old Pitt county farmer was sentenced to 15 years in State prison for one attempt, and judgment was continued in the other on the other charge.

James Jones Jr., following trial in Superior Court in Greenville, was found guilty of assault with intent to commit rape on his older daughter, and assault on a female in connection with charges surrounding an attack upon his younger daughter.

The girls were 13 and 12-years-of-age, respectively.

* * *

ACCORDING to testimony, Deputy Sheriff Lloyd Manning, who investigated the charges

27h(2) 1953

NORTH CAROLINA

8594

Hold White Boy In Rape Of Woman, 30

LEXINGTON, N. C. — (ANP) —A 16-year-old white boy, Spencer (Sonny) Murph, was charged last week with rape in the reported assault on a 30-year-old Negro housemaid.

According to Deputy Sheriff Graham Leonard, the charge against the youth was made after Miss Elizabeth Lee told the youth had assaulted her early on Sept. 17.

The deputy sheriff quoted the woman saying the youth offered her a ride as she was going to work in a Lexington home, but instead he took her to a wooded place where he attacked her.

The officer said the woman's clothing was badly torn.

The boy was held in Davidson county jail for a hearing.

27h(2) 1953

Pennsylvania

8595

14-year-old girl sex-slayer victim

27h(2)

READING, Pa., Jan. 7 (AP)—The body of a 14-year-old girl, victim of a sex slayer, was found stuffed in an ash barrel in an alley near her home early today. Her foster parents had reported Dorothy Schlappig missing a few hours earlier and a search was under way.

Police said they believed Dorothy was strangled, and there were indications she had been criminally assaulted.

Her body, nude except for a brassiere, was found jammed in the barrell in a sitting position. In the alley, police said, there were signs of a terrific struggle.

The body was found about half a block from the home of the girl's foster parents, Mr. and Mrs. Louis Sauber, who had reported to police late last night that the girl was missing.

8596

Aiken White Man To Face Rape Charge Now

Aiken county white man who allegedly molested a ten year old girl of Wagener is expected to face trial next month on charges of assault and battery and attempt to rape, the NAACP's state office told The Lighthouse and Informer Monday, issuing its first report on an investigation made into the case.

James M. Hinton, state NAACP president, said his office had been informed by the Aiken county branch which handled investigation of the case, that the young man will be tried on attempted rape instead of the act of of rape, when the case comes into general sessions court. The NAACP investigation was made after reports from Wagener claiming that the rape charge had been discounted entirely. The man is being remanded to the Aiken county grand jury. Fuller details of the case were expected to be announced later.

The case which stirred the Wagener community, developed when the man is alleged to have lured the pretty little girl away from home on the pretext of having her baby sit. Instead, it is claimed, he drove to an isolated section, molested her and gave her a dollar with instructions to say she had consented to the experience and, one report is, he forced her to sign her name to a statement indicating willingness in the alleged illegality on the outside of a used envelope.

He was [illegible] when he returned the child to the community as angry citizens milled about the town.

27h(2) 1953

TENNESSEE

8597

Police Say 3 Slugged Date, Raped Coed

Knoxville, Tenn., Dec. 7 (AP)—Three youths today faced charges of raping a University of Tennessee coed after slugging her date unconscious in a fashionable section of Knoxville Saturday night.

Accused of raping the young coed on a golf course are Jerry Horton, 20, Robert Wright, 20, and Donald Wiseman, 19, all of Knoxville. Sheriff Austin Cate said the girl was parked with the youth slated to be best man at her wedding to a former Tennessee student now in the Air Force. Cate identified the girl as Miss Ethel Robertson, 20, and the date as James T. Stooksberry, 20.

The sheriff said the three youths also face highway-robbery charges after knocking Stooksberry unconscious and robbing him of about $25 and a camera.

Cate quoted Horton as saying he and his companions drove alongside the parked car, broke into the vehicle, beat the young man unconscious, and then drove both cars onto a nearby golf course where they took turns raping the girl.

8598

Sheriff's Deputies Nab White Man For Raping Aged Woman, 16-Yr.-Old Girl

Informer
Houston Tex
Sat 12-19-53
P. 1

HOUSTON.—The alleged criminal attacker of a widowed mother and her 16-year-old daughter is in the County jail awaiting positive identification. Deputy sheriffs arrested Calvin Otis Graves, a 35-year-old white fugitive, Monday morning in connection with the brutal and aberrant rape upon the mother and her daughter during the before dawn hours of November 15.

Graves, who is being sought by the FBI and peace officers of Waco, in connecton with burglary and theft charges, will be viewed by the widow, 55, and the victimized daughter, a night school student.

The mother and daughter were while attacking each several times on Nov. 15 as they lay in the bedroom of their home on Thompson Road, outside the city limits of North Houston. Following the attack, deputies were told that the attacker was a white man who previously had posed as a citizen seeking the young girl to baby-sit for him.

It was also learned that the rapist was a sex pervert and that he committed perversion acts upon both the mother and daughter wheli attackin geach several times at gun point.

Deputy Sheriffs H. C. Irby and H Carpenter arrested Graves Monday morning about 7 a.m. near the intersection of 19th street and Yale. The two officers said they were parked at the intersection when Graves drove past, driving south on Yale street.

Graves automobile was curbed. He was arrested and his car was searched. But the deputies said they were unable to find the pistol alleged to have been used in the double rape. The only weapon found in Graves car was a set of brass knucks, the deputies said.

These are the circumstances and events which led to Graves arrest:

Following the attack upon her and the young girl, the mother supplied the Sheriff Department with the license plate numbers of the attacker's car.

The plates were traced to E. E. Edwards of 1017 Wavely St., but it was learned that someone had switched plates with Mr. Edwards. Officers then set out to locate the driver of the car possessing Edwards stolen tags.

That's how Graves was spotted by the two deputies Monday morning.

A warrant had been issued for Graves arrest when it was learned that the Federal Bureau of Investigation and the Waco Police Department were seeking Graves in connection with a number of burglary and theft charges committed in Waco.

The officers were also looking for Graves in connection with the rapes. Both the mother and girl have identified Graves picture as the "man who attacked us".

Chief Deputy Sheriff Lloyd Frazier said he would question Graves after the widow and daughter were given a chance to view the suspect in a police line-up "either Monday afternoon or Tuesday morning".

BULLETIN

HOUSTON — Calvin Otis Graves, 35, has been identified by a widow and her 16-year-old daughter as the white man who raped them on Nov. 15. Graves was picked out of a police line-up ordered by Deputy Chief Lloyd Frazier following Graves arrest Monday morning.

GIRL SAYS CHINESE FORCED SEX ACTS

Informer
Houston Texas
Sat 12-19-53
P. 10

HOUSTON— The reason why a 16-year old girl stabbed a Chinese cafe owner, Lum Say of 1703 North Main, in the back last Monday was cleared when she made a written statement in the Crime Prevention office, Saturday, Dec. 19.

Although the stabbing occurred December 14, police were unable to find the girl, because she left town. The girl, who was accused of taking about $200 from the man, went on a shopping spree in Louisiana, while enrouted to Arkansas. She had $13 left when her mother returned her to Houston.

Conflicting statements were given by the girl and the Chinese businessman.

In his statement, the cafeowner told police the girl had come to his home wanting to work, but he said he told her he didn't need her. She had been working for him in his cafe.

He said he turned his back and started in the cafe, when the girl stuck a knife in his back. The 16-year-old girl went to the kitchen and took the $200 from a metal box in which he kept his money.

The girl's version was that after she had worked for the oriental about a year, he forced her to have sex relations with him. He promised not to molest her again, if she didn't tell her mother.

When the young girl's mother called him about molesting her, he apoligized and asked to let her continue to work for him. He added he thought she was 18, since she was working.

On December 13, the girl said in her statement, Lum Say told her he wanted her to go to town for him. When she stopped at the store Monday, on her way to school, he told her, "Let's go back in the bedroom".

Passing through the kitchen, the girl said she picked up a case knife, put it in her pocket and followed him into the bedroom. She said he pulled off his pants as he went through the kitchen.

The girl told police that the man told her she had grown up and for her to get in the bed. He turned his back, she continued, and she stabbed him, the walked out of the room locking the door, and took the money from his pants. She confessed that she didn't know how much she had.

After window shopping, the girl bought a ticket to Shreveport, La., and on arriving there, bought another one to Eudora, Ark. While changing buses at Delhi, La., the girl bought some clothes, then continued her trip to an aunt, whom she planned to spend Christmas with.

Her mother returned her to Houston on December 17. She was released to her mother, but will be referred to the probation department. The girl is in ninth grade at Harper School.

8599

DALLAS SCARE 'FIZZ

'No Negro Man Is Safe'

Courier P.A. Pittsburgh, Pa
27h (2) Texas
Feb. 10-10-53

(By International News Service)

DALLAS, Tex.—Mass panic and hysteria and a prowler scare whipped up in the wake of the rape-murder of a local housewife, with a "nude, shorts-clad" Negro as the arch-suspect . . . began to fizzle here Sunday in the wake of the arrest of a white youth as a suspect and cool action on the part of sane Negro and white citizens.

Police announced that a 23-year-old man was arrested after he was seen at the spot where Mrs. Venice Parker was brutally raped and slashed. They said he was muttering, "Oh the body, Oh the body." The suspect identified himself as an ex-judo and knife-fighting expert in the Marine Corps.

The all-out search for the killer had centered in the Negro sections of town with "extra" squads of policemen, augmented by "vigilantes," who scooped up scores of Negroes as "suspects."

BASEBALL STARS Bus Clarkson and Willard Brown of the Dallas Eagles played a major role in the action taken by calmer citizens, which helped to toss cold water on frayed tempers.

The players contributed $300 apiece to a reward for the killer's apprehension and then owner Dick Burnett, whom they first approached with the proposition promptly added $900 of his own money to the fund.

The money was then turned over to the Dallas Negro Chamber of Commerce which collected additional contributions from Negro firms and organizations.

The murder had touched off a wave of hysteria among Dallas' white citizens in which all the guns in town were purchased for a period of forty-eight hours and the Negro sections were thrown into such a panic that Mrs. Juanita Craft, NAACP worker, was led to assert, "No Negro man is safe in Dallas at this time. My heart goes out to the family of that poor savaged girl, but we have no real proof that her attacker was a Negro.

"Just while the police continue to pick up Negro after Negro to grill them, the real culprit is getting away. It's deplorable. When the facts are known there probably won't be nearly as many Negroes involved as they think there are now."

J. W. Rice, secretary of the Negro Chamber of Commerce, said: "Some mentally sick people are running loose in this town and they must be apprehended immediately. These terrible things must stop and our people are willing to do anything to help in any way."

* * *

THE SLAYING of Mrs. Parker occurred last Wednesday night, but the "prowler scare" did not begin to grip the town's citizens until the week-end, when on Friday they besieged gun stores, lock stores and dog kennels, frantically seeking "protection" after another rape attempt was reported.

Mrs. Parker, 31, had been found staggering along a street Wednesday evening shortly after she had left her work at a suburban shopping district store. Her clothes nearly torn from her body and her throat slashed, she gasped, almost with her last breath that a "Negro" had dragged her under a bridge and stabbed her.

Many women bought police whistles and tied them around their necks. One jeweler alone reported selling thirty-five whistles to women.

In the meantime, the police were swamped with over five hundred calls on Friday night.

* * *

BUT THE "prowler panic" did not stop in Dallas, the hysteria swept on outside of the city into neighboring communities where police began jailing suspects in their respective towns and volunteered to augment the Dallas search with their own personnel.

The reward fund had reached $7,000 by Saturday night. Mrs. Craft, local NAACP spokesman, commented further: "Personally I think there is hysteria that is deplorable building up around the prowler scare and the murder of that poor girl. Just think, 500 calls to the police last night. Commonsense shows there aren't that many prowlers at work.

"A white woman who is a friend of mine told me, 'I'm much more afraid of my neighbors than of a prowler. I see them armed to the teeth, crawling around the shrubbery, looking for someone who isn't there . . . The population of Dallas is in a panic . . . people are taking the law into their own hands.'"

Two Men Suspended; Grand Jury To Act

27h (2) Texas
Pittsburgh Courier
2-21-53

HOUSTON—A young 31 year-old expectant mother pleaded not to be molested, while she was brutally raped by two white patrolmen in their car early Saturday night.

Assistant Police Chief George L. Seber said both patrolmen were called in around 9:30 p.m. and have been relieved of duty pending further investigation.

In a statement to the NAACP, the young woman said the improper relations happened around 8 p.m. between some warehouses off Nance St.

Describing what happened the expectant mother said she went in the Club Matinee about 7:30 alone and ordered a beer. Before the waitress returned the two patrolmen entered the club. The shorter one approached her and asked her age and for her identification.

"I only had an identification card which came with my purse when I bought it, so I showed that to him," the victim said.

The officer left the table, the young woman continued. Becoming nervous because she had never been question by police before, the woman decided not to wait for the beer. As she started to leave, the taller officer stopped her and asked for identification.

"I asked the officer if I was being arested and he said I should come outside to the car and I would find out why I was being arrested," she said.

After she got outside, the expectant mother asked to use a telephone, but the officers refused. The woman continued,

"By this time I was very nervous, and when they raised their voices and said get in their car, I did so. I was constantly begging them to tell me why I was being arrested and begging them to let me go."

"The short officer told me that they wanted to have sex relations with me. I began crying and begging them to let me go, but the taller one then said,

'Yes, we want you to give us a little bit. We know you are one of those hustling kind.

"I told them I am not a hustler. I work, and I am a married woman and my husband works," the victim said. "I was very frightened and I kept begging to be let alone, but they insisted that I consent to do what they asked me to do and I insisted that I would not."

Threatening in turn to take her to jail, take her home, and to beat her; the officers drove toward town on Lyons, turned on Jensen Drive, went to Sumpter then to Gregg, turned on Gregg went on New Orleans to Deschaumes and turned off on Nance. This is when the policemen allegedly attacked the helpless woman.

Realizing they intended to carry

that he was standing in front of the Matinee when the officers approached him saying:

"Boy, have you got a girl? One for them).

"No," he replied.

"You better get us one," one of them said and waled them into the club.

This same witness said about 30 minutes later, he saw two policemen with a woman in the back

woman took the car. She was picked and he took her to where they called

victim at Jefferson evidence of recent evidence of physical violence. The woman was sousness, also.

of the INFORMER

victim out. The woman claims number of the car. She up by a cousin, and her father's house where

Chief Seber said an made of the victim Davis showed evidence relations, but no evidence

bid for my body. The tall one the short one to use me first, sobbing victim said.

After the proper relations, the mother stated, not let the other man because I could get through again, but the right on and used me also.

The policemen drove to a playground on Lyons and put their

at the car turn left off Lyons on Jensen in front of him. The light changed and his car was behind the police. The police went south on Jensen and made a turn at Lincoln Drive-In, and went south again. They drove to Nance and turned west on Nance of Lyons.

Another witness, who is an employee at the Matinee, said she saw the police come in and heard them ask one young woman how old she was. She told them 21, then they asked for proof. The witness said "there's my husband."

The employee continued patrolmen usually don't come in the club.

Charges will be filed with the Grand Jury. Chief Morrison and Asst. Chief Seber are investigating the case and also Inspector Sheptina, the patrolmen's superior officer. Special Investigator Albertson has been assigned to the case, and he promises to send it to the grand jury by Friday.

Attorneys who will represent the victim are W. J. Durham, state resident attorney for the NAACP, and Henry E. Doyle, local chairman of the Branch's legal redress committee.

WHITE MAN RAPES

Natural, Unnatural Sex Acts Performed

Sheriff Starts Manhunt

HOUSTON— A widowed mother and her sixteen-year-old daughter were criminally assaulted by a white sex fiend, Sunday, between 3:30 and 4:30 a.m. The family resides on Thompson Road just outside the city limits.

The man raped the girl twice and performed an act of sodomy on her. During this the sex fiend then assaulted the young victim's mother and did the same thing to her, according to the records from the sheriff's office.

A spokesman for the Sheriff's Dept. stated that a search is being conducted for the yet unidentified man.

The mother said that the attacker had been to their house on four different occasions to get the 16-year-old girl to baby sit for him. He promised to pay the girl $5 an hour, the mother said.

She said that she was suspicious of him and refused to let the girl go. At that time the man told her that his name was Jones and said that he lived on the Hempstead Road.

The mother, a 35-year-old woman, told deputies that she was in the bed with the 16-year-old victim and another daughter, age 13. The younger girl was sleeping crossways the bed and the mother and the older girl were at the foot of the bed, side by side, a spokesman for the Sheriffs' dept. said.

The mother said that she was awakened by a light shining in her face. She heard a man's voice that said, "Don't make any noise."

The frightened woman said that she knew that it was the white man. "I knew by his looks and voice," she said.

The man showed her a blue-steel pistol.

She said that her girl said to her, "Mamma,' he's got a gun," a daughter cried.

The man told the girl to change places with her mother and get on the outside of the bed.

The mother said that the girl obeyed and man began "making love to the girl" and performed a sex act upon her. An act of sodomy was also performed.

After he finished with the girl, the man allegedly told the girl to "Move over next to the wall". Following this, he performed a sex act as well as sodomy on the mother.

The attacker told the mother that if she permitted him to keep company with her daughter he would make her the best dressed girl in school. He also promised to give the mother a television set for Christmas.

After talking a while the man told the girl to come back on the front side of the bed. She obeyed and he repeated another sex act.

The sex-crazed man wanted to go in the back bedroom where another daughter, 19, was, but the mother begged him not to do so. She told him that she the daughter had a boyfriend. So he didn't bother her.

When the man got ready to leave, he flashed a light on a $10 bill and told his victims that they had nothing to worry about if they accepted the money and kept their mouths shut.

The rapist left saying that he would see them "in a few days."

The victims watched their attacker drive off. They immediately called the Sheirff's office.

The mother said that three weeks ago her 13-year-old girl and one of her girl friends were chased by this same man but they eluded him.

Costs $Million

Group Raps Negro Housing Project

HOUSTON, Tex.—Two policemen who allegedly raped an expectant mother in a city-owned patrol car have resigned but the indignation of Houston [illegible] of all races was not [illegible] down by the resignations.

Mrs. Annie Harris, [illegible] the local chapter of the National Council of Negro [illegible] and the Harris County Council of Negro Organizations recently told City Council the handling of the case was a disregard of Negro womanhood.

Girl, 16, Raped On Va. Drive; Two Charged

CHARLOTTESVILLE, Va., June 29 (AP).—Two coal miners were charged today with raping a 16-year-old girl on Scenic Skyline Drive before dawn yesterday, while holding her boyfriend at gun point.

Ira Loudin Daniels, and Henry Burrell Kinder, 26, both of Powellton, W. Va., were captured by a posse of State Police and sheriff's [illegible] hours after the alleged attack. Charges of rape, a capital offense, and armed robbery were placed against both.

E. A. Thompson, a State Police investigator, said Carroll D. Duncan, 19, of Faber, Va., and his date attended a movie at Waynesboro Saturday night and later parked off United States 250 between here and Waynesboro.

Thompson said the couple was accosted by two men carrying revolvers, who robbed Duncan, then drove Duncan's car back to the entrance of the Skyline Drive atop Afton Mountain and turned into the drive.

The alleged rape attack by both men took place at a scenic overlook a short distance north of the Waynesboro entrance to the mountaintop drive, Thompson said.

Duncan and the girl were released at Ivy, Va., about six miles west of here, Thompson said.

Two Charlottesville policemen located two men walking toward a parked car on United States 29 near here at 3:30 a. m., and the two men darted into bushes. Nearly two dozen heavily armed police, troopers, deputies and University of Virginia policemen fired several shots.

Thompson said neither Daniels nor Kinder had a gun when they surrendered. Daniels had a bullet wound in his left knee and was taken to a hospital under heavy guard.

Virginia brothers get 3-year terms

Mother of 3 carried to house trailer parked in deserted spot

By BUDDY LONESOME

ACCOMAC, Va. — The two white brothers charged with raping a 26-year-old colored mother for immoral purposes were sentenced to three years each in the state penitentiary in Richmond Tuesday.

Shortly after 4 p.m., an all-male, white jury filed into the Accomac Circuit Court after three and one-half hours deliberation and told Judge Jeffrey Walters they had found Elbert, 26, and William Spry, 21, guilty of abduction.

The brothers could have been sentenced to death, life imprisonment or 20 years in prison. The three-year term is the minimum.

Broke Up Dispute

The Spry brothers, were charged with abducting Mrs. Sarah Johnson on Tuesday, Nov. [illegible] across the matron that night on a lonely road arguing with her husband.

It developed that the argument was the outgrowth of Mrs. Johnson's conviction that her husband, Willie, was running around with a teen-age girl, who worked with him at a local hospital.

The mother of three was hidden in the trunk of her husband's car and opened the lid after he had picked up the teen ager.

When Johnson stopped to investigate, he and the girl were confronted by his wife and a violent argument followed.

Brandish Shot Gun

The Spry brothers, accompanied by a third man still awaiting trial, happened along, and after brandishing a shot gun, forced Mrs. Johnson to accompany them, testimony set forth.

The trio allegedly drove to a deserted spot where one suspect, identified as Elbert Spry, moved the woman to a house trailer, where, it was testified, he attempted to have relations with her.

Failing this, the suspect allegedly, performed certain indecent acts on the woman.

The jury retired to consider the verdict after hearing two hours of the summations by the two defense lawyers and Commonwealth Attorney E. A. Aimes and George E. Downing, special assistant prosecutor.

Mr. Downing is colored and the only attorney of his race practicing on the eastern shore of Virginia. It marked the first time in the history of the county that a colored man sat as special prosecutor.

Because of the racial tones of the trial, the maneuver asumed a special significance. Mr. Downing delivered the opening address to the jury. After summarizing the charges against the men, the prominent lawyer said:

"If you have an abiding conviction of the truth of the charge you must be satisfied as to the guilt of the defendants.

"Seach your minds and see whether a set of facts has been presented to you so forcibly as to undermine our welfare."

Action Held "Good Deed"

Previously, Ernest Reudiger and Thankard Baxsley, defense lawyers had countered that the Spry brothers had picked Mrs. Johnson up out of charity.

Alluding to this, Mr. Downing said:

"So these good Samaritans, riding through our peaceful community, saw a chance to help, not this woman, but to motivate their own selfish interests.

"If the woman voluntarily got into the car, why were three buttons torn from the shirt of one of the defendants?

Calls Suspects "Strangers"

"No, my friends, we were getting along peacefully when these strangers came into our midst with a new attempt to bring something new to us.

"These self-styled professors of sex relationships introduced a new innovation in our midst. Why 'his woman could have been anybody's mother,' " Downing thundered.

At this remark, Mr. Baxsley jumped to his feet and asked the judge to declare a mistrial, which was quickly denied by Judge Walters.

Mr. Downing then continued:

"Certain things must be stated and we might just as well call a spade a spade.

"We are proud of our way of living and proud of our way of doing things. I hope you 12 men will write a verdict that will protect the chastity of all our women, white or black," the lawyer passionately declared.

Messrs. Reudiger and Baxsley then continued with attempts to discredit the testimony of Mrs. Johnson, her husband and the teen ager.

Mr. Reudiger repeatedly reminded the jury, during his long summation, that no charge of criminal attack or attempted criminal attack was pending against the defendants.

The lawyer also devoted much time to an apparent discrepancy in Mrs. Johnson's written statement in her testimony during Monday's trial concerning just where the teen-age girl was picked up by her husband.

This line of reasoning was immediately attacked when Commonwealth Attorney Aimes began his pleading.

"An old courtroom axiom," began Mr. Aimes, "says that if the facts in the case are against you, stick to the law. If the law is against you, stick to the facts. And if both are against you, raise hell in general."

While the defense lawyers were making their summations, Judge Walters was engaged in reading a newspaper.

"There is only one issue at stake," Mr. Aimes continued: Willie Johnson ran off on his wife. That's the issue here. Then these two men carried Mrs. Johnson away against her will.

Red Herring Deprecated

"The two esteemed defense lawyers hammer on just where the young girl was picked up. I don't care if she got on at Cape Charles," the lawyer shouted.

A wave of laughter swept the crowded courtroom.

"But did you notice how the defense attorneys shied away from testimony of our officers which confirms Mrs. Johnson's story?" he asked.

Then turning to the subject of a $2 payment, which defense counsel contended was the agreed on sum paid Mrs. Johnson, Mr. Aimes asked:

Facts Support Statement

"If Sarah Johnson had gotten the $2 for a sexual act, would she have voluntarily given the money to the sheriff on reaching the jail?"

The Commonwealth attorney then pointed out that the facts seemed to support Mrs. Johnson's statement that she was given the money as fare to get home.

"But men," he continued, "even if our officers hadn't been so diligent that night, and obtained the statement from the defendants, the evidence would still be enough to convict these men.

"But when you back the evidence up with those statements I don't see how there can be the slightest doubt.

"Gentlemen, you represent Accomac county and this is a serious matter.

"I know you 12 men are not afraid to accept the responsibility that has been thrust upon you.

"The people of Accomac county are looking at you to see whether we will properly enforce the laws of this state.

"I know each and every one of you, and I have no doubt in my mind that you will, by your verdict, say that every man, white or colored, will get a fair trial in Accomac county.

"We will not countenance such conduct as that which took place on a dark road Nov. 17."

After the Commonwealth attorney's plea, there was an hour-long recess for lunch. When the court reconvened, Judge Walters did not issue a direct charge to the jury, but only instructed them to appoint a foreman and have the verdict properly written.

In the long interval while the jury was out, few of the 300-odd persons packed into the courtroom, moved from their seats.

When the jury finally filed in and the verdict was read by the foreman, Calvin Cullen Jr., an expectant gasp ripped through the room. As the judge rapped for order, everybody rushed to the exits.

As the crowd filed from the red brick courthouse, one white farmer was overheard discussing the case in a nearby filling station.

The grizzled oldster said, "Well, it was a nasty business and everybody should be punished when they're wrong, black or white."

NO LYNCHINGS FOR TWO YEARS-END OF AN ERA

The decision by Tuskegee Institute to abandom its annual tabulation of lynchings accomplished and prevented, has historic implications that deserve the widest dissemination and broadest emphasis. "The average number of Negroes lynched each year in the first decade of this century was 115, with two peak years of 155", Dr. Charles S. Johnson relates in his book, PATTERNS OF NEGRO SEGREGATION.
For 41 years the Tuskegee reports have been annually made, and recognized as authoritative. Their usefulness was marked, and they contributed immensely to the awakening of the people of the country to the need for action to eliminate a bestial system of extra--legal justice and private vengeance which abrogated the basic right of men to a fair trial, and which also claimed the lives of many innocent suspects. Among the lynchees were defenseless women, even pregnant women; and ultimately, because lawlessness of this stripe eventually turns on its perpetrators, there were white victims.
Gradually, the curve of lynchings swung downward.
In 1952 there were no lynchings at all. The same exceptional record was achieved in 1953.

Two years of no lynchings, though there were three unsuccessful lynching threats in the just-ended year, prompted newly- inaugurated President Luther H. Foster, Jr., of Tuskegee to make this announcement last week:

Lynchings as traditionally defined, and as a barometer for measuring the status of race relations in the United States, particularly the South, seems no longer to be a valid index to such relationships ...

We believe that a new standard for measuring race relations is needed . . .

We propose then, in future annual releases, to issue a statement with information as significant for the present times as was the annual lynching letter (report) in the past . . .

The gradual decline of the shame and tragedy of lynching has in it the heart of the whole story of Negro aspiration for escape from the stigma of second-class citizenship, a story too involved even for summary in this space at this time.
But it bears remarking that the factors affecting the decline and virtual elimination of the mob with rope and faggot included the efforts of the NAACP for federal legislation, the unremitting pressure of the Negro press, ably supported by many liberal southern daily papers, for federal and or state laws punishing of mobbists and conniving police officers, and advancing educational levels among both whites and Negroes, and the softening of southern mores--if not of laws--rigidly banning contacts between the races.
So, instead of reporting the grisly statistics of mob rule. Tuskegee hereafter will offer as a barometer of interracial relations and racial progress "employment and other economic conditions, political participation, education, law and legislation, health, and perhaps other fields".
There will still be the threat, at least, of occasional lynchings; though generally discredited and persistently hounded by the law, the KKK and other groups of that cowardly character will periodically here and there, sneak out of their rat holes. That they shall not again become a major menace will depend on the climate of public opinion and the unrelenting vigilance of decent-minded citizens.
Whatever the totality of causes, the no-lynching record for two consecutive years signalizes the end of one era and the beginning of another.

It is not without significance that this comes in the period when a major, full-dress assault, through the courts, on discrimination and segregation was organized and carried through to our highest court.
Journal and Guide
p.2. section 2
Sat. 1-9-54
Norfolk, Va.

See; Code 46a (Folder) 1954 (Conflict clipping)

Inequalities Still Prove Fatal

The obsolete Tuskegee annual lynching letters which for 41 years have been looked upon by many as an index to race relations in the United States will not be published in the future. This fact was announced recently by Dr. Luther H. Foster, president of Tuskegee Institute.

No one can successfully deny that from 1912 to 1951 when more than 4000 persons were lynched, including nearly 1000 whites, that this report did much to focus attention on the tyrannical and vicious practice of putting human beings to death, without due process of law. However, with the change of status of Negroes and the federal suppression of such hate organizations as the K.K.K. and the Black Legions, lynching has not only become unpopular but unsafe.

Because mobsters are not only beset by deep seated fears, real or imaginary, but are basically cowards, they quickly abandon any action which exposes them to any hazards whatsoever. It is understandable therefore, that those who advocate or thrive on racial hate found it expedient to abandon the lynch technique during recent years for more more subtle technique. Hence, we have witnessed in recent years an increase of floggings, bombings, and burning of crosses to say nothing of the unusual circumstances frequently surrounding the killing of Negroes while under the "protective" custody of so-called law enforcement officers. A classic example of the latter was the fatal shooting a fortnight ago of a Negro by an Alabama sheriff whom the Negro had testified against in a recent federal case. The FBI is "probing" the incident but no one familiar with such matters anticipate any results.

So we see that in spite of happy decline in lynchings, the invaluable work for fair minded whites and some gratifying gains for the race during the recent year, the fact still remains that racial inequalities are proving fatal to hundreds of Negroes. No one close to the problem would dare deny that lack of adequate health, housing and recreational facilities in many sections of the country and the cheap price placed on Negro life by law enforcement agencies are responsible directly or indirectly for the deaths of more Negroes annually than were reported by the Tuskegee lynch reports over a period of 41 years. We hope that the new Tuskegee reports on race relations in the United States will reflect that fact.

Lynchings no longer indicate Negro status, says Institute; to survey economic field

search reported that for the second consecutive year, there had been no lynchings.

However, "in at least three instances, lynchings were prevented."

On Jan. 17, near Mobile, Ala., Henry Lee Brown, 17, Negro, escaped from Sheriff's deputies while being taken to Kilby Prison at Montgomery. Convinced that he was about to be lynched when his handcuffs were removed and the deputies stopped their cars, the prisoner jumped from the car and ran into the swamps, while shots were fired at him. He later gave himself up, was tried and acquitted of the charge of slaying a white woman;

"In March, near Wilcox, Ariz., Arthur Thomas, 29, Negro migrant cotton worker, accused of murdering a white woman storekeeper, was saved from lynching by an officer of the law.

"On May 24, at New York City, Edward Cartagena, 42, Puerto Rican, was rescued from a mob by two umpires of a baseball game and the mounted police. Before several hundred persons watching the game in Central Park, Cartagena stabbed his estranged common-law wife to death. Players and spectators tried to kill him." The five years, 1949-1953, show a total of six lynchings.

Institute Reports Second Consecutive Year Without Lynching In Nation

For the second consecutive year and the only two years in its 42 years of keeping records, Tuskegee Institute reported that no lynching took place in the United States during 1953. Mob violence has been steadily declining through the years but 1952 was the first when not one was reported.

The annual report by the Department of Records and Research at the Institute recorded, however, three instances in which lynchings were prevented. One of these occurred last Jan. 17 near Mobile, when Henry Lee James, 17, escaped from sheriff's deputies while being taken to Kilby Prison. Two other cases of near-lynchings took place in Arkansas and Texas.

The report set out that lynching "seems no longer to be a valid index" to race relationships and that the future a new standard will be used and will include economic, political, educational and professional factors.

Dr. L. C. Foster, Institute president, said the study probably will make a comparison of white and Negro standards in four categories:

1. Income relationship.
2. Voter participation.
3. Education and the per pupil cost.

Details have worked out, he said, but staff members of the school will be called together in a conference soon to begin correlating the statistical information already on hand.

Lynching statistics will be kept up to date and will be made available to those who want them, Dr. Foster said.

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REVIEWING THE NEWS

Violence: A Changing Pattern

(SNS)—The train was brought to a stop ... out of Augusta, Georgia, and a farmer, Perry Jeffers ... his sons were taken off and shot to death. The men ... the crime, were no masks. Law officials failed to ... finger to apprehend the killers, their reason being, ... had killed a white man who was a member of ...

Later a group of men made a visit to the small ... There was a knock at the door of the small cab... ... invalid son was lying in bed while his ill mother sat near ... and praying for the safety of her husband and ... She did not know at the time, that they had be... ... of a mob.

... friends were calling, the ... the cabin, and opened ... robed men, on horse-back ... Their robed figures cast a ghostly shadow about the ... One man dismounted and walked up to the cabin door: ... the house of Jeffers?", he asked. "Yes", came a ... from the ill woman, standing in the door of the cabin. ... further questioning, she was snatched from the cab... ... son was dragged from his bed and shot on the spot. He ... lost. Meanwhile, his mother was hung to a tree in ... her clothing, while a fire was lit over the body of the ... Then in the light of the moon and the funeral pyre, ... rode away, their figures losing themselves under the ... of the early dawn.

... family, whose murder ... incidents in lynching history ... part of the nineteenth century. ... has haunted us even ... American frontier ... played a large part in ... pattern of ... Historians say, that ... during this period ... civilized man has gone through few periods less ... a nation, we should ... By contrast to ... violation ... taking on a changing pattern.

... For the second straight year now, Tuskegee Institute has reported no lynchings. This is a far cry, even from the type of lynching which occured in Monroe, Georgia in 1946 when four young people were shot down in cold blood by mobsters.

There is still violence of course, but the method is one of a changing pattern. Instead of the lynch mob of the past, small groups conspire to beat and kill their victims.

This new method of violence is not primarily a Southern phenomenon, but one of the growing national pattern. Instead of the mob, we get teen-age gangs in Boston, police brutality in New York and the White Circle League with its brutal methods in Chicago. Yes, we still have hate and bigotry with us, but usually in a disorganized sense. Today, mob action gets little sympathy from public opinion. Again thanks to our maturity as a people and as a nation. Whether this be a realization that we have too much at stake to be allied with brutality, or that the leadership views such action as inconsistent with our doctrine we are gradually improving our total lot.

One point is certainly apparent. The ... realize that we cannot continue to point ... nations and countries while our ... fellow human beings are nothing short of ... In the area of mob violence, we can see a great improvement, even over the past ten years. Let's hope that this trend continues, not only in lynching, but in all areas of race relations. Let's say that in ...

Lynchings no longer indicate Negro status, Tuskegee to survey economic field

...statement ... significance ... no fair ... Negro in the United States is com... Tuskegee Institute, this week.

The Institute, whose Department of Records and Research has been tabulating lynchings, whether ... Negroes, for 40 years, ... with the report for the ... lynching as ... and as a barometer ... the status of ... the United States, ... South, seems no ... a valid index to such ... relationships."

Softening no ... in the matter, the Bureau, over the signature of L. A. Foster, new president of the Institute, saw no millennium in the Negro's fight for equality, but said that "This is due to significant changes in the status of the Negro and to the development of other extra-legal means of control, such as bombings, incendiarism, threats and intimidation, etc."

Continuing, the announcement said: "We believe that a new standard for measuring race relations is needed. This one should be as objective and as factual as were the lynching reports. This standard, we think can best be established in such areas as employment and other economic conditions; in political participation; in education; in law and legislation; in health and perhaps in other fields."

The Institute then proceeded to propose in future annual reports to issue a statement on such action as significant for the present time as was the Annual Lynching Letter in the past."

The Dept. of Records and Research reported that for the second consecutive year, there had been no lynchings.

However, "in at least three instances, lynchings were prevented ... near Mobile, Ala., ... Brown, 17, Negro, escaped ... Sheriff's deputies while being taken to Kilby Prison at Montgomery. Convinced that he was about to be lynched when his handcuffs were removed and the deputies stopped their cars, the prisoner jumped from the car and ran into the swamps while shots were fired at him. He later gave himself up, was tried and acquitted of the charge of slaying a white woman.

"In March, near Wilcox, Ariz., Arthur Thomas, 29, Negro migrant cotton worker, accused of murdering a white woman storekeeper, was saved from lynching by an officer of the law.

"On May 24, at New York City, Edward Cartagena, 42, Puerto Rican, was rescued from a mob by two umpires of a baseball game and the mounted police. Before several hundred persons watching the game in Central Park, Cartagena stabbed his estranged common-law wife to death. Players and spectators tried to kill him. The five years, 1949-1953, show a total of six lynchings.

The Lynching Evil

Decision of Dr. Luther Foster, the new president of Tuskegee Institute, to cease the annual publication of lynching figures in the South meets the instant approval of the Black Dispatch. For many years those who fight for civil rights in the United States have felt Tuskegee was the wrong place where such information should be compiled. The disposition has been to feel local pressures might tend to color the truth about one of the worst evils existing in the American social pattern. It is far too much like the conclusion of a man after he examines himself.

We have a case in point at the moment right here in Oklahoma, which points up clearly the view we seek to express. A highway trooper Christmas eve plowed five bullets into the body of a highly respected black man. All of the bullets, according to attending physicians, entered the black man's body from the rear. The black man was knocked down twice and run over by a passing automobile. It was after all this catastrophe had come to the Negro the trooper decided to shoot.

One would assume in the bare statement of facts such as these the highway trooper would at least be suspended until a routine investigation had been made by the county attorney of Seminole county, but Dixie Gilmer, head of the highway patrol, following ex parte statements by this trooper, and totally ignoring witnesses who saw what happened and who wanted to testify, has decided the officer in question acted solely in the interest of law and order.

This is what happens when a department of government examines itself, and this is what is likely to happen when a section of the nation examines itself. Tuskegee is just in the wrong spot to make dependable decisions about what white people are doing to Negroes down in Dixie.

Some knowledge of the reaction to the yearly summation of Tuskegee Institute of the lynching evil can be gotten out of comparison of figures assembled by the NAACP and other civil rights organizations. Up until we just about reached the zero point, the NAACP always reported more lynchings in the U. S. than Tuskegee. For some time there was open controversy about the dissimilarity in the two sets of figures, and the discussion finally boiled down to the definition of a lynching. There's plenty of room for argument there.

Webster says lynching is the infliction of punishment without due process of law, and later in the definition he places emphasis upon death, but he ... historically lynching was the type of punishment the master gave to the slave, and one living in this acquisitive atmosphere of capitalism would naturally infer and decide that the slaveholder when he punished his cattle, did not destroy his property. That would be too expensive and confiscatory. In fact Webster says the first form of lynching began and ended with flogging.

Using Webster's definition upon which to stand in this

New formula welcome

In its annual report on race relations, Tuskegee Institute announces first that there were no lynchings in 1953, and secondly that it proposes to set up a new measuring formula in its subsequent reports on racial progress.

A new kind of yardstick to determine advances in the race relations field has been due from Tuskegee for some time.

The decision to secure one is characteristic of Tuskegee's new president, Dr. L. A. Foster, who was formerly business manager of Virginia State college.

Hereafter, Dr. Foster says, Tuskegee is not going to evaluate progress on lynching statistics which have shown a decline for years.

He proposes new comparative statements showing the annual income of white and colored persons, comparative statements of colored and white registered voters, the per pupil cost of colored and white children in the south and the comparison of employment conditions in certain key industries.

Lynching has not been an important factor in measuring progress in race relations for a number of years.

The new Tuskegee comparative report therefore will be welcomed as a needed and enlightened change.

...ession we feel, and have always felt that no black man ...y should be utilized to contract and narrow the interpre... of lynching. Personally, this writer feels that when... the savage, unrestrained punishment is visited upon a ... man, without due process of law, that individual has ... lynched, and it is our opinion that much of this spirit ... terrorize black folk has been drawn under the guise of law ... recent years, in order to mislead Negroes as to its real ... tragedy character. We know two Negroes in Oklahoma ... we are convinced were lynched by the courts of this ... in order to placate race prejudice.

One of these individuals is Jess Hollins, who has been ... the penitentiary for the past twenty years, charged with ... crime of rape, when all of the evidence produced in the ...ulgee county courtroom where he was tried, including ... testimony of three white witnesses, proved conclusively ... all Jess Hollins was guilty of was a misdemeanor. At ... a half dozen whites and blacks together testified that ... white girl and Jess Hollins had been sweethearts across ...riod of time up near Slick, and that the prosecutrix cried ... the morning her brother-in-law caught her with Hol... The white judge and white jury heard all of this testi..., but prejudice at that time brought a dishonest in...ment against this backwoods country boy. Our notion ... was lynched in the open courtroom. How many more ...roes are being lynched all over the South today in the ... way? The court that two years ago convicted another ... man of the astonishing crime of "ocular" rape, was ... as manifestly guilty of lynching a black man as in the ... of Jess Hollins. Before we fold our arms and announce ... the world that lynching has ceased in the United States, ...'s be sure that the cancer of hypocrisy, as noted above, ... been removed from the halls of justice.

In the other instance we wish to note here it should be ...membered that W. D. Lyons was lynched of his rights down ... Choctaw county several years ago. Despite the fact that ... bootlegging ring was discovered eminating from the state ...ison at Stringtown and the fact that this group of semi-released felons had close relationship to the family that was ...rdered at Fort Towson, W. D. Lyons was snatched up by ...ficers of the law and the crime of murder fastened upon ...im. This was done despite the white father of the girl in ...estion, along with her sister, all testified for W. D. Lyons ...d sought to establish the true facts in this unholy situa... W. D. Lyons, we feel, is still being lynched by the ...ts of Oklahoma, and there are thousands of white people ... Choctaw county who feel the same way about it.

How many Negroes in the past year have bitten the dust ... did Herman T. Moore and his wife at Mims, Florida? You ... we have decided unless we can show a crowd of men ...thered, torturing and do to death a black man, a lynch...ing has not occurred. That is not our notion of a lynching. ...ccording to Webster's definition of lynching, Georgia is ...ill lynching a black woman who killed a sharecropper who ... alleged lusted for her body. We hardly feel in 1954 we ... fold our arms and say America is without sin of this ...aracter.

As a man thinketh in his heart so is he." So long as a ...arge segment of the majority race continues in the belief ...black citizens should be compelled to accept second class ...itizenship, just so long will there reside in the marble hearts ...of such people determination to in some form lynch (punish) ...the unafraid black man and women who seek to exercise ...their constitutional rights. Thought precedes action. We ...act as we think.

While people in Oklahoma City are attempting at this moment to ignore the constitution of the United States and lynch Negroes of their right to live in Creston Hills and Culbertson Heights. The city manager is lynching eight policemen of their rights to work on the police force, and the hotels are many of them lynching black men and women of their right to ride passenger elevators, and to enforce their unwritten laws they are willing to do physical violence in many instances. In fact, if it were not for the threat of physical violence, such as Talmadge and Byrnes prophesy about down in Dixie at the present moment, these arch-lynchers of civil rights down in Dixie could not expect to maintain themselves in power another moment.

Before we conclude this statement about lynching let's not exclude the Christian church. How much "room in the inn" do you suppose there is today for the black communicant to approach the altar with his white brother? It should be recalled a mob appeared at a white Carolina Catholic church during the past year when the bishop of the diocese demanded the institution of a program of integration. What did that mob of church workers have in mind when they threatened the bishop and the black communicants? In a traditional sense were they not also seeking to lynch their black brother and his friends because they sought to practice Christ's brotherhood?

We want all of our readers to know the Black Dispatch believes we have made much progress in America and the world during the past year towards ideal racial relationships but we do not feel we have reached the apex of goodness where we can truthfully decide we have eliminated the lynching spirit in the United States, and we do not think and never have felt Tuskegee is the proper source from which we should seek information regarding white vs black relations below the Mason and Dixon line.

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The Negro's Progress

For many years one set of statistics which shamed Americans was the tabulation of lynchings by Tuskegee Institute, the noted Negro college in Alabama. The only consolation was that the total got smaller every year.

Now, for two years running, the figure has been zero. As a result, Tuskegee concludes that lynchings are no longer a measuring stick for race relations, and announces that it will base its annual reports hereafter on other material.

The Negro draws small comfort from the mere fact that his life is in less danger from hoodlums.

"Jim Crow" is a great deal more than physical segregation, which would exist to a large degree even were there no laws on the subject. It is denial to the Negro of the right to compete for jobs even when he is unquestionably equalified for them, and hence a harsh economic barrier to better housing, better education for his children, and the other good things of life he desires.

When Tuskegee in future years tabulates the statistics in that important field of race relations, we hope it will find a continuation of the recent steady progress and eventually will find all such tabulations outdated too.

New formula welcome

In its annual report on race relations, Tuskegee Institute announces first that there were no lynchings in 1953; and secondly that it proposes to set up a new measuring formula in its subsequent reports on racial progress.

A new kind of yardstick to determine advances in the race relations field has been due from Tuskegee for some time.

The decision to secure one is characteristic of Tuskegee's new president, Dr. L. A. Foster, who was formerly business manager of Virginia State college.

Hereafter, Dr. Foster says, Tuskegee is not going to evaluate progress on lynching statistics which have shown a decline for years.

He proposes new comparative statements showing the annual income of white and colored persons, comparative statements of colored and white registered voters, the per pupil cost of colored and white children in the south and the comparison of employment conditions in certain key industries.

Lynching has not been an important factor in measuring progress in race relations for a number of years.

The new Tuskegee comparative report therefore will be welcomed as a needed and enlightened change.

Tuskegee to Drop Lynching Reports

To Make New Race Relations Survey

TUSKEGEE, Ala.—(ANP) Tuskegee Institute declared last week that it is dropping its famed lynching reports for 41 years the nation's top barometer on race relations.

Dr. Luther H. Foster, Tuskegee president, announced that the school will replace this report with a new annual survey covering employment, politics, education, health and other fields.

Declaring that the report on lynching no longer gave a true picture of the racial problem, Dr. Foster announced the new type of report in issuing what probably will be the last Tuskegee Annual Lynching Letter.

This year's letter said that for the second straight year no lynchings were reported in the United States. It did, however, reveal that lynchings were prevented in at least three instances during

[redacted]

deputies while he feared he would be lynched while they were taking him to Kilby prison in Montgomery. The deputies had taken off his handcuffs and stopped their car. Later when he gave himself up, he was tried and found innocent of a charge of slaying a white [redacted]

In [redacted] Arthur Thomas, 28 Negro accused of murdering a white woman, was saved by an alert lawman.

May 24, in New York City, Edward Cartagena, 42, a Puerto Rican, was saved by two baseball umpires and mounted police in Central Park after he stabbed his estranged common-law wife to death as several hundred persons looked on.

The report stated that during the past five years there were only six lynchings.

As a result in the drop of lynchings and the appearance of more subtle forms of discrimination, Tuskegee has proposed what it calls an index to race relations. Of this new report, which will come out December 31, 1954, Dr. Foster said.

"Lynching as traditionally defined (person killed by mob of 3 or more) and as a barometer for measuring the status of race relations in the United States, particularly the South, seems no longer to be a valid index to such relationships. This is due to significant changes in the status of the Negro and to the development of other extra-legal means of control, such as bombings, incendiarism, threats and intimidation, etc.

"We believe that a new standard for measuring race relations is needed. This can and should be as objective and as factual as were the lynching reports. This standard, we think, can best be established in such areas as employment and other economic conditions; in political participations, in education, in law and legislation, in health and perhaps in other fields.

"We propose then, in future annual releases to issue a statement with information as significant for the present times as was the Annual Lynching Letter in the past."

The 1953 report thus marks the end of an era in American race relations—one in which Negroes were beaten and intimidated pay-

[redacted]

Lynchings Belong To Days Gone By

Tuskegee Institute is absolutely right when it discards lynchings as the barometer of race relations in this country. The press of the nation, which for years has carried Tuskegee's record of mob violence occurring within the calendar year, will welcome a new yard-stick by which to measure the progress made toward our national goal of democracy in action.

If lynching were the measuring rod that it was in years past, race relations in the United States would have reached the near-perfect stage because for the last two years there have been no instances of lynch law.

Although no federal anti-lynching legislation was ever enacted, the agitation for such a law was so widespread and so penetrating into the hearts and minds of Americans that mob violence gradually declined from its peak of 162 lynchings in 1892 to one in 1951. Then in 1952 and 1953, there were none.

The department of records and research at Tuskegee has done a thorough job through the years in keeping account of lynchings and then making a public year-end report. This is one of the extra-curricular services which the institute founded by Booker T. Washington has performed through the years. We will look forward to the new index which will more accurately measure race relations in today's terms.

Lynchings no longer indicate Negro status, says Tuskegee; to survey economic field

TUSKEGEE — A statement which has very great significance as far as the status of the Negro in the United States is concerned came out of Tuskegee Institute, Ala., this week.

The Institute, whose Department of Records and Research has been compiling lynchings, whether attempted or successful, for 48 years, issued a report for the year 1953 in which lynching as traditionally defined and as a barometer for measuring the status of race relations in the United States, particularly the South, seems no longer to be a valid index to such relationships.

Lynching as traditionally defined and as a barometer for measuring the status of race relations in the United States, particularly the South, seems no longer to be a valid index to such relationships. This is due to significant changes in the status of the Negro and to the development of other extra-legal means of control, such as bombings, incendiarism, threats, and intimidation, etc.

Continuing, the statement said: "We believe that a new standard for measuring race relations is needed. This can and should be as objective and as factual as were the lynching reports. This standard, we think, can best be established in such areas as employment and other economic conditions; in political participation; in education; in law and legislation; in health and perhaps in other fields."

The statement then announced that "We propose in future annual releases, to issue a statement with information as significant for the present times as was the Annual Lynching Letter in the past."

The Dept. of Records and Research reported that for the second consecutive year, there had been no lynchings.

However, "in at least three instances, lynchings were prevented."

On Jan. 17, near Mobile, Ala., Henry Lee Brown, 17, Negro, escaped from Sheriff's deputies while being taken to Kilby Prison at Montgomery. Convinced that he was about to be lynched when his handcuffs were removed and the deputies stopped their cars, the prisoner jumped from the car in which he rode and ran into the swamps, while shots were fired at him. He later gave himself up, was tried, and acquitted of the charge of slaying a white woman.

"In March, near Wilcox, Ariz., Arthur Thomas, 29, Negro migrant cotton worker, accused of murdering a white woman storekeeper, was saved from lynching by an officer of the law.

"On May 24, at New York City, Edward Cartagena, 42, Puerto Rican, was rescued from a mob by two umpires of a baseball game and the mounted police. Before several hundred persons watching the game in Central Park, Cartagena stabbed his estranged common-law wife to death. Players and spectators tried to kill him."

The five years, 1949-1953, show a total of six lynchings.

TUSKEGEE REPORTS NO LYNCH DEATHS, NEW PLAN FOR BIAS CLASSIFICATION ANNOUNCED

By [illegible] Feature Project

TUSKEGEE — According to criteria used in the Department of Records and Research, Tuskegee Institute, for the second consecutive year, has no lynchings to report. The 5 years, 1949-1953, show a total of 6 lynchings.

Lynchings Prevented

However, in at least 3 instances lynchings were prevented. Reports on these follow:

On January 17, near Mobile, Alabama, Henry Lee Brown, 17 year old Negro, escaped from Sheriff's deputies while being taken to Kilby Prison at Montgomery. Convinced that he was about to be lynched when his handcuffs were removed and the deputies stopped their cars, the prisoner jumped from the car in which he rode and ran into the swamps, while shots were fired at him. He later gave himself up, was tried and acquitted of the charge of slaying a white woman.

In March near Wilcox, Arizona, Arthur Thomas, 29 year old Negro migrant cotton worker, accused of murdering a white woman storekeeper, was saved from lynching by an officer of the law.

On May 24, at New York City, Edward Cartagena, 42 year old Puerto Rican, was rescued from a mob by two umpires of a baseball game and the mounted police. Before several hundred persons watching the game in Central Park, Cartagena stabbed his estranged common-law wife to death. Players and spectators tried to kill him.

New Index to Race Relations to be Issued:

Lynching as traditionally defined and as a barometer for measuring the status of race relations in the United States, particularly the South, seems no longer to be a valid index to such relationships. This is due to significant changes in the status of the Negro and to the development of other extra-legal means of control, such as bombings, incendiarism, threats and intimidation, etc.

We believe that a new standard for measuring race relations is needed. This can and should be as objective, and as factual as were the lynching reports. This standard, we think, can best be established in such areas as employment and other economic conditions; in political participation; in education; in law and legislation in health and perhaps in other fields.

We propose then, in future annual releases, to issue a statement with information as significant for the present times as was the Annual Lynching Letter in the past.

Report no lynchings in U.S. for 2 years

Baltimore Afro

TUSKEGEE INSTITUTE, Ala.—For the second consecutive year, the Tuskegee Institute department of records last week reported no lynchings as compared to six during the years 1949 to 1953.

The report stated, however, that in at least three instances, lynchings were prevented.

On Jan. 17, near Mobile, Ala., Henry L. Brown, 17, escaped from sheriff's deputies while being taken to Kilby prison at Montgomery. Convinced that he was about to be lynched when his handcuffs were removed and the deputies stopped their cars, the prisoner jumped from the car in which he rode and ran into the swamps.

Acquitted Of Murder

The youth was able to evade the shots fired at him by the deputies, but later gave himself up, was tried, and acquitted of the charge of slaying a white woman.

In March, near Wilcox, Ariz., Arthur Thomas, 29-year-old migrant cotton worker, accused of murdering a white woman store keeper, was saved from lynching by an officer of the law.

On May 24 in New York City, Edward Cartagena, 42-year-old Puerto Rican, was rescued from a mob by two umpires of a baseball game and mounted police.

Before several hundred persons watching the game in Central Park, Cartagena stabbed his estranged commonlaw wife to death. Players and spectators tried to kill him.

No Longer Valid

Lynching, as traditionally defined and as a barometer for measuring the status of race relations in the United States, particularly the South, seems no longer to be a valid index to such relationships.

This is due to significant changes in the status of the colored citizen and to the development of other extra-legal means of control, such as bombings, incendiarism, threats and intimidation, etc., the report stated.

The report suggested that a new standard for measuring race relations be established in such areas as employment and other economic conditions; in political participation; in education; in law and legislation; in health and perhaps in other fields.

Dr. Mays:

NAACP and Women of Methodist Church Did Much to End Uncivilized Era

By BENJAMIN E. MAYS

PRESIDENT Foster of Tuskegee has rightly stated that mob violence is no longer a valid index of progress in race relations because of changes in the status of the Negro and the development of other extra-legal means of control, such [redacted] bombings, intimidations. The new weapon [redacted] points out that the future Tuskegee will [redacted] relationships, education, pupil cost, and employ- [redacted] control must be [redacted] as effec- [redacted] mob [redacted] Dr. Mays

a person without trial of any kind.

During the sixty-four years, 1882-1946, there were 4,716 lynchings in the United States. And what we are always likely to forget is that of this number 1,291 were whites. We usually think of lynching as applying only to Negroes. But it got to be an American institution operating in the North and in the South.

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FROM 1882 through 1946 more than two and one-half times as many Negroes as whites were lynched. The fact that both Negroes and whites were lynched is further evidence that the destiny of Negroes and whites is tied together. We could not lynch Negroes without the bug stinging whites. Forty-two of the forty-eight states have had lynchings ranging from one to 573. Oddly enough, twenty-six Northern states have had lynchings and sixteen Southern and border states have indulged in lynching.

Although the number of persons lynched has been decreasing since 1902, it took about a half-century before we could report a year with no lynchings. There were none in 1952 and none in 1953. Every year between 1882 and 1946 there were Negroes lynched—although in two or three years only one or two Negroes were lynched. There were thirteen years during these sixty-four years when no white person was lynched.

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DURING THE period under discussion, the following states lynched Negroes: Alabama, Arkansas, California, Colorado, Delaware, Florida, Georgia, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maryland, Michigan, Minnesota, Mississippi, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, New Jersey, New Mexico, New York, North Carolina, North Dakota, Ohio, Oklahoma, Oregon, Pennsylvania, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, Utah, Virginia, Washington, West Virginia, Wyoming.

All of the states that lynched Negroes lynched white people except Delaware and New Jersey. Arizona, Idaho, Nevada, South Dakota and Wisconsin lynched white men but no Negroes.

It is hardly surprising that between 1882 and 1946 Mississippi took first prize in lynching—574; not surprising that Georgia ran Mississippi a close second—525; Texas came third with 489; Louisiana fourth, 391; Alabama fifth, 364; Arkansas sixth, 285, and Tennessee seventh, with 250 lynchings in sixty-four years.

• • •

DURING THIS era Negroes were lynched for charges of rape or attempted rape, murder, insulting women, stabbing, owing debt, killing a boy in an automobile accident, quarreling over wages, wife-beating, attempting to qualify to vote, failure to call a white man mister, replacing white man on job, stealing or suspected stealing, disputing a white man's word, etc. The NAACP and the women of the Methodist Church did much to end this uncivilized era.

...Lynching ...'53 Report Of Tuskegee

Tuskegee Institute which publishes annually a report on the number of lynchings in the United States plans to issue a new index to race relations, according to an announcement this week by the Institute's president, F. H. Foster.

The announcement came in a report by Tuskegee's department of records and research which stated that for the second consecutive year there were no lynchings in the country.

However, the report contained three attempted lynchings for 1953.

The report points out that bombings, incendiarism and other forms of intimidations are apparently replacing lynchings.

"Lynching, as traditionally defined, long as a barometer for measuring the status of race relations in the United States, particularly the South, seems no longer to be a valid index to such relationships." Foster said: "This is due to significant changes in the status of the Negro and to development of other extra-legal means of control, such as bombings, incendiarism, threats and intimidation."

Stating that the records and research department believes a new standard for measuring race relations is needed, Foster said, "This can and should be as objective and as factual as were the lynching reports."

The department of records and research, which has been operating for the past forty years, will continue to record information on lynching.

The three attempted lynchings reported are as follows:

1. On January 17, 17-year-old Henry Lee Brown, fearing he was about to be shot while being transported to an Alabama prison, escaped from sheriff's deputies. Brown, accused of slaying a white woman, surrendered and was tried and acquitted.

2. In March, near Wilcox, Arizona, Arthur Thomas, 29-year-old migrant cotton worker, accused of murdering a white woman storekeeper, was saved from lynching by an officer of the law.

3. On May 24, at New York City, Edward Cartagena, 42-year-old Puerto Rican, was rescued from a mob by two umpires of a baseball game and mounted police. Cartagena stabbed his estranged common-law wife to death before [illegible] people watching [illegible] in Central Park. Baseball players and spectators tried to kill him.

Tuskegee To Drop Lynching Report; Will Make New Survey

TUSKEGEE, Ala. — (ANP) — Tuskegee Institute declared last week that it is dropping its famed anti-lynching reports, for 41 years the nation's top barometer on race relations.

Dr. Luther H. Foster, Tuskegee president, announced that the school will replace this report with a new annual survey covering employment, politics, education health and other [illegible].

Declaring that the report on lynching no longer gave a true picture of the race problem, Dr. Foster announced the new type of report will [illegible] what probably will be the [illegible] Lynching Letter.

SECOND STRAIGHT YEAR

This year's letter said that for the second straight year no lynchings [illegible] in the United States. It did [illegible] lynchings were [illegible] in at least three lynchings during 1953. These instances were:

Jan. 17 near Mobile, Ala., when Henry Lee Brown, 17, escaped deputies armed as feared he would be lynched while they were taking him to Kilby prison in Montgomery. The deputies had taken off his handcuffs and shackles, years. Later when he gave himself up, he was tried and found innocent of a charge of slaying a white woman.

In March, near Wilcox, Ariz., Arthur Thomas, 29, Negro accused of murdering a white woman, was saved by an alert lawman.

May 24, in New York City, Edward Cartagena, 42, a Puerto Rican, was saved by two baseball umpires and mounted police in Central Park after he stabbed his estranged common-law wife to death as several hundred persons looked on.

The report stated that during the past five years there were only six lynchings.

As a result in the drop of lynchings and the appearance of more subtle forms of discrimination, Tuskegee has proposed what it calls an index to race relations. Of this new report, which will come out on Dec. 31, 1954, Dr. Foster said:

"Lynching as traditionally defined (person killed by mob of 3 or more) and as a barometer for measuring the status of race relations in the United States, particularly the South, seems no longer to be a valid index to such relationships. This is due to significant changes in the status of the Negro and to the development of other extra-legal means of control, such as bombings, incendiarism, threats and intimidation, etc.

"We believe that a new standard for measuring race relations is needed. This can and should be as objective and as factual as were the lynching reports. This standard, we think, can best be established in such areas as employment and other economic conditions; in political participation; in education; in law and legislation; in health and perhaps in other fields.

"We propose then, in future annual releases, to issue a statement with information as significant for the present times as was the Annual Lynching Letter in the past."

The 1953 report thus marks the end of an era in American race relations. One in which Negroes were beaten and intimidated physically into submission to whites and the beginning of a new one in which "legal" means are used to thwart the Negro's fight for first class citizenship.

Tuskegee thus ends 41 years of reporting on lynching, and the report probably did more to bring to the attention of the American public the evils of lynching than any other criteria.

The department of records and research at Tuskegee will continue to record all lynchings and will send such information to those who may request it.

1953–Another Lynchless Year

"For the second consecutive year," reports the Department of Records at Tuskegee Institute, (there) has (been) no lynchings to report." However, there were "at least 3 instances (where lynchings were prevented" . . . near Mobile, Ala., Wilcox, Arizona and New York City.

Those who take only the gleeful cursory look at this no-lynching record are likely to be misled by it. Violent and crude techniques of "group control" have been discarded and in their place new ones installed. The Tuskegee Institute lynch record is no longer a yardstick for measuring race relations. "It (lynching) seems no longer to be a valid index to such (race) relationships. This is due to significant changes in the status of the Negro and to the development of other extra-legal means of control such as bombings, incendiarism, threats and intimidation, etc."

While Tuskegee Institute says that it will continue to list lynchings and their related outbreaks it also will establish a new standard of auditing race relations such as checking "such areas as employment and other economic conditions, in political participation, in education, in law and legislation; in health and in other fields."

The one-category standard in race relations measurement has become as unsatisfactory as one-crop farming, one-party politics and the one-thought community. As unwise and cowardly a practice of collective murder, lynching deserved in the past the consideration and attention given to it. An eye must never be taken completely off it and safeguards never lowered or removed against it. Lynching must be kept in the zero column.

It would be well for comunity, city, state and regional organizations to set up a balance sheet on racial relations and make it public annually. We believe that in such reports would be found hopeful signs in a number of obscure places and among humble people as well as elsewhere. Progress in human relations is the barometer of democracy functioning and the Christian spirit moving in the hearts of men.

NO LYNCHINGS — Hmm!

No Lynching, But . . .

For the last couple of weeks newspapers throughout the country have overly extolled the recent report out of Tuskegee Institute relating the fact that for two successive years there have been no lynchings in the United States.

Typical of this editorial jubilance is the following from the Washington Post:

"At least for the present the blot that had so long stained the American record and poisoned the relations between the white and colored races has been lifted. . . ."

Continuing to comment on lynching statistics, its president, Dr. A. S. Foster, reports realistically that its annual report on this subject has lost its significance as a yardstick of race relations.

In spite of the editorial notice given to the report might has been lost of the complete meaning of the statements therein.

We call attention to the following information:

"Lynchings as traditionally defined and as a barometer for measuring the status of race relations, seem no longer to be a valid index to such relationships. THIS IS DUE TO SIGNIFICANT CHANGES IN THE STATUS OF THE NEGRO AND TO THE DEVELOPMENT OF OTHER EXTRA-LEGAL MEANS OF CONTROL SUCH AS BOMBINGS, INCENDIARISM, THREATS AND INTIMIDATIONS, etc."

We submit that the absence of lynching, as we have understood the term, is cause for hope and favorable comment, but not to the extent that other crimes, quite as heinous, and which have been substituted for the rope, are overlooked.

The American record is yet "stained" by a blot of intolerance and so long as mob violence, burning and bombing continues all of our energy must be expended in wiping it out rather than praising the fact that one has been dropped for the other.

Lynching Yardstick Abandoned

Tuskegee Institute has done well to abandon lynching as a kind of index to racial relations in this country. Lynching has almost ceased to exist in this country, but to say that race relations may thereby be considered fully satisfactory is to shut one's mind to conditions as they are.

By the Institute's definitions, there were no lynchings in this country in either 1953 or 1952. Prior to that, there was only one in 1951 and only two in 1950, one victim white, one a Negro. In the last six years there have been only eight lynchings, in which two victims were whites. Not since 1936 have there been as many as 10 lynchings in one year.

But all this time there have been other acts of violence against Negroes. There has been terrorism of many kinds. Homes have been bombed and prisoners mistreated. Furthermore, discrimination has continued, at the polls, at employment offices and in government disbursements. A new set of criteria is needed.

This Tuskegee Institute has set up. But the index, while carefully thought out, already has run into difficulties, just as the Institute's definition of lynching was considered, by some persons, erroneous and inadequate. Such difficulties are only to be expected, however, in an area of human relationships where feelings run deep and prejudices are hard to eradicate.

Nevertheless, a considerable measure of improvement has followed the publication for more than 50 years of annual lynching figures. We do not doubt that these annual figures have had much to do with arousing the public to the disgrace and dishonor and utter lack of justice involved in lynching. In like manner there should be improvement following periodic reports on race relationships as indicated by comparative incomes, voter participation, comparative figures on education, and comparative employment statistics.

However, the evidence of improvement that has been signalized by abandonment of lynching figures as an index of race relations should suggest to Tuskegee that annual figures alone are not all that may be desired. An annual report of conditions as they exist at the time are like a picture that stands alone. We need other pictures for comparisons. It is good to turn the light on the dark spots in our body politic, but it is helpful also to know whether the spots are as dark as they used to be, or are darker. The Tuskegee reports of the future should show change as well as the status quo.

A long road

TUSKEGEE'S famous lynching reports are being abandoned for the simple reason that lynchings have disappeared along with the code duello. . . . This means that a most violent historical manifestation of bad racial relations has gone. . . . But it does not mean that all problems have been solved. . . . There are still economic and other forms of deplorable violence to be removed. . . . I hope you and I will see the passing of these other things.

Tuskegee Institute drops 'lynch letter,' says race relations no longer justify it

Tuskegee Institute's department of records and research is going to junk its annual "Lynching Letter."

For the second straight year, there were no lynchings to report.

Lynching "seems no longer to be a valid index" of race relationships in the United States, particularly the South, the annual letter said.

"We believe that a new standard for measuring race relations is needed," said the department, which has issued its "Annual Lynching Letter" for 41 years.

"This is due to significant changes in the status of the Negro and to the development of other extra-legal means of control, such as bombings, incendiarism, threats and intimidation, etc.," the report said.

New standards should include employment and other economic conditions, political participation, education, law and legislation, health and perhaps other fields, and an annual report should replace the "Lynching Letter" of the past 41 years, the report suggested.

ACCORDING TO criteria used by the department there were six lynchings during the period 1949-53, and three "lynchings were prevented" during 1953.

The report said that a 17-year-old Negro, "convinced that he was about to be lynched," escaped from sheriff's deputies while being taken to Kilby Prison at Montgomery, Ala. He later surrendered and was acquitted of slaying charges.

In March, near Willcox, Ariz., a cotton worker accused of murdering a woman storekeeper was "saved from lynching by an officer of the law." On May 24, a Puerto Rican was rescued from a New York City mob by two umpires and police at a baseball game after he stabbed a woman to death, the report said.

Lynching Yardstick Abandoned

Tuskegee Institute has done well to abandon lynching as a kind of index to racial relations in this country. Lynching has almost ceased to exist in this country, but to say that race relations may thereby be considered fully satisfactory is to shut one's mind to conditions as they are.

By the Institute's definitions, there were no lynchings in this country in either 1953 or 1952. Prior to that, there was only one in 1951 and only two in 1950, one victim white, one a Negro. In the last six years there have been only eight lynchings, in which two victims were whites. Not since 1936 have there been as many as 10 lynchings in one year.

But all this time there have been other acts of violence against Negroes. There has been terrorism of many kinds. Homes have been bombed and prisoners mistreated. Furthermore, discrimination has continued, at the polls, at employment offices and in government disbursements. A new set of criteria is needed.

This Tuskegee Institute has set up. But the index, while carefully thought out, already has run into difficulties, just as the Institute's definition of lynching was considered, by some persons, erroneous and inadequate. Such difficulties are only to be expected, however, in an area of human relationships where feelings run deep and prejudices are hard to eradicate.

Nevertheless, a considerable measure of improvement has followed the publication for more than 50 years of annual lynching figures. We do not doubt that these annual figures have had much to do with arousing the public to the disgrace and dishonor and utter lack of justice involved in lynching. In like manner there should be improvement following periodic reports on race relationships as indicated by comparative incomes, voter participation, comparative figures on education, and comparative employment statistics.

However, the evidence of improvement that has been signalized by abandonment of lynching figures as an index of race relations should suggest to Tuskegee that annual figures alone are not all that may be desired. An annual report of conditions as they exist at the time are like a picture that stands alone. We need other pictures for comparisons. It is good to turn the light on the dark spots in our body politic, but it is helpful also to know whether the spots are as dark as they used to be, or are darker. The Tuskegee reports of the future should show change as well as the status quo.

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EDITORIAL PAGE

THE ASHEVILLE TIMES

SATURDAY, JANUARY 2, 1954

New Formula To Measure Racial Progress In U. S.

RACIAL PROBLEMS in the United States, particularly in the South, have been changing steadily for many years. They have been changing in numerous other lands too—and for the same reasons. Since the coming of the industrial revolution the world has been in the throes of a social revolution. Both of these revolutions were speeded up enormously by the two great world wars. As the world has pushed ahead many old barriers, inside nations and between nations, have been broken down or begun to crumble. Dramatic signs of this historic process are appearing at frequent intervals in our new atomic era.

One of these signs, of especial significance to our Southland, was last Wednesday's announcement of Tuskegee Institute's new formula for measuring racial progress in this country. Dr. L. H. Foster, president of this famous Negro college in Alabama, revealed it was discontinuing its annual lynching report for a more realistic index of race relations. Tuskegee's report for 1953 showed that for the second year in a row there were no lynchings in the United States.

In explaining Tuskegee's new formula, to be used for the first time this year, Dr. Foster said:

"Lynching as traditionally defined and as a barometer for measuring the status of race relations in the United States, particularly in the South, seems no longer to be a valid index to such relationships. This is due to significant changes in the status of the Negro and to the development of other extra-legal means of control, such as bombings, incendiarism, threats and intimidation, etc.

"We believe that a new standard of measuring race relations is needed. This can and should be as objective and as factual as were the lynching reports. This standard, we think, can best be established in such areas as employment and other economic conditions; in political participation; in education; in law and legislation; in health and perhaps in other fields."

This fundamental change in Tuskegee's approach to appraising race relations in America hasn't been made a bit too soon. For some years now its customary annual lynching report has been outmoded and completely unrealistic. Its approach was narrow, negative and therefore virtually meaningless. The new formula is broad, positive, constructive and should result in annual reports of true significance and genuine value.

Report Omitted

[illegible] annual lynching report of Tuskegee Institute is overdue, but there won't be any. Lynching, says the research department of Tuskegee, "as a barometer for measuring the status of race relations in the United States, particularly in the South, seems no longer to be a valid index of such relationships."

But there is a better reason than that for omitting the report: There were no lynchings in 1953.

Lynching Yardstick

Tuskegee Institute has done well to abandon lynching as a kind of index to racial relations in this country. Lynching has almost ceased to exist in this country, but to say that race relations may thereby be considered fully satisfactory is to shut one's mind to conditions as they are.

By the Institute's definitions, there were no lynchings in this country in either 1953 or 1952. Prior to that, there was only one in 1951 and only two in 1950, one victim white, one Negro. In the last six years there have been only eight lynchings, in which two victims were white. But since 1936 have there been as many as 10 lynchings in one year.

But all this time there have been other acts of violence against Negroes. There has been terrorism of many kinds. Homes have been bombed, and persons mistreated. Furthermore, discrimination has continued, at the polls, at employment offices and in government disbursements. A new set of criteria is needed.

This Tuskegee Institute has set up. But the index, while carefully thought out, already has run into difficulties, just as the Institute's definition of lynching was considered, by some persons, erroneous and inadequate. Such difficulties are only to be expected, however, in an area of human relationships where feelings run deep and prejudices are hard to eradicate.

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However, the evidence of improvement that has been signalized by abandonment of lynching figures as an index of race relations should suggest to Tuskegee that annual figures alone are not all that may be desired. An annual report of conditions as they exist at the time are like a picture that stands alone. We need other pictures for comparisons. It is good to turn the light on the dark spots in our body politic, but it is helpful also to know whether the spots are as dark as they used to be, or are darker. The Tuskegee reports of the future should show change as well as the status quo.

End Of Lynching

One of the best year-end news items has come out of Tuskegee Institute. For two successive years the Nation has had no lynching. At least for the present the blot that had so long stained the American record and poisoned the relations between the white and colored races has been lifted. While Tuskegee will continue to compile lynching statistics, its president, Dr. L. H. Foster, reports realistically that its annual report on this subject has lost its significance as a yardstick of race relations.

The current report will be especially gratifying to those who have believed that the states, themselves, under the impact of an aroused public opinion, could wipe out this especially heinous type of crime. To be sure, there are still would-be lynchers in the South and in other parts of the country. Lynchings were prevented last year in Alabama, New York and Arizona. But law enforcement is always a matter of eternal vigilance. There is good reason to believe that, having wiped out this offense to American civilization, the states will continue to maintain their new record.

THE NEGRO'S PROGRESS

FOR many years the annual statistics which shamed Americans was the tabulation of lynchings by Tuskegee Institute, the noted Negro college in Alabama. The only consolation was that the total got smaller almost every year.

Now, for two years running, the figure has been zero. As a result, Tuskegee concludes that lynchings are no longer a measuring stick for race relations, and announces that it will base its annual reports hereafter on other material.

The Negro draws small comfort, however, from the mere fact that his life is in less danger from hoodlums. He had that assurance under slavery.

What is much more cheering to him is the real progress his race has made in only a few years, in the South as well as other regions, toward equality of opportunity. "Jim Crow" is a great deal more than physical segregation, which would exist to a large degree even were there no laws on the subject. It is the denial to the Negro of the right to compete for jobs even when he is unquestionably qualified for them, and hence a harsh economic barrier to better housing, better education for his children, and the other good things of life he desires and which some people think can be given him simply by repealing certain laws.

When Tuskegee in future years tabulates the statistics in that important field of race relations, we hope it will find a continuation of the steady progress that has been occurring recently and eventually will find all such tabulations outdated, too.

TUSKEGEE OMITS 'LYNCHING LETTER'

Southern Institute Proposes a New Annual Report on Racial Relations

Special to THE NEW YORK TIMES.

TUSKEGEE, Ala., Dec. 30 — Tuskegee Institute today announced it is abandoning its annual Lynching Letter.

"Lynching * * * as a barometer for measuring the status of race relations in the United States, particularly the South, seems no longer to be a valid index to such relationships," Tuskegee's Department of Records and Research observed in a letter released by the institute's president, Dr. L. H. Foster.

For the second straight year, Tuskegee reported that no lynchings had been recorded in the United States. During the years 1949-53 there had been only six lynchings, the report added.

As a substitute for the annual Lynching Letter, issued for the last forty-one years, Tuskegee proposes to publish a new annual report upon which the applicable year's race relations will be based.

"This can and should be as objective and as factual as were the lynching reports," Dr. Foster's letter stated.

The new standard for race relations will be based on employment and other economic conditions, politics, education and health, as well as possible other fields "significant for the present times," the Tuskegee report said.

Will Note Future Lynchings

Dr. Foster added, however, that Tuskegee's Department of Records and Research would continue to record any future lynchings. The report noted three instances in 1953 in which lynchings had been prevented. It said:

"On Jan. 17, near Mobile, Ala., Henry Lee Brown, 17-year-old Negro, escaped from sheriff's deputies while being taken to Kilby Prison near Montgomery. Convinced that he was about to be lynched when his handcuffs were removed and the deputies stopped their cars, the prisoner jumped from the car in which he rode and ran into the swamps, while shots were fired at him. He later gave himself up, was tried and acquitted of the charge of slaying a white woman.

"In March, near Willcox, Ariz., Arthur Thomas, 29-year-old Negro migrant cotton worker, accused of murdering a white woman storekeeper, was saved from lynching by an officer of the law.

"On May 24, at New York City, Edward Cartagena, 42-year-old Puerto Rican, was rescued from a mob by two umpires of a baseball game and the mounted police. Before several hundred persons watching the game in Central Park, Cartagena stabbed his estranged common-law wife to death. Players and spectators tried to kill him."

New Standard Planned

The report added:

"Lynching as traditionally defined and as a barometer for measuring the status of race relations in the United States, particularly in the South, seems no longer to be a valid index to such relationships. This is due to significant changes in the status of the Negro and to the development of other extra-legal means of control, such as bombings, incendiarism, threats and intimidation, etc.

"We believe that a new standard of measuring race relations is needed. This can and should be as objective and as factual as were the lynching reports. This standard, we think, can best be established in such areas as employment and other economic conditions; in political participation; in education; in law and legislation; in health and perhaps in other fields.

"We propose then, in future annual releases, to issue a statement with information as significant for the present times as was the annual Lynching Letter in the past."

Tuskegee's Report On Lynching

For the second straight year the Department of Records and Research at Tuskegee Institute reports no lynchings in this country. Only six lynchings have been reported in the five years 1949-53.

This record indicates a vast improvement in race relations and is a basis for much satisfaction in the nation. It does not, however, tell the whole story. Murder is not the only weapon of race prejudice.

Tuskegee recognizes this in the following official comment:

"Lynching as traditionally defined and as a barometer for measuring the status of race relations in the United States, particularly the South, seems no longer to be a valid index to such relationships. This is due to significant changes in the status of the Negro and to the development of other extra-legal means of control, such as bombings, incendiarism, threats and intimidation, etc.

"We believe that a new standard for measuring race relations is needed. This can and should be as objective and as factual as were the lynching reports. This standard, we think, can best be established in such areas as employment and other economic conditions; in political participation; in education; in law and legislation; in health and perhaps in other fields. We propose, then, in future annual releases, to issue a statement with information as significant for the present times as was the Annual Lynching Letter in the past."

Tuskegee is to be congratulated on this move to broaden the criteria for study of race relations. Obviously the record of "no lynchings" in the last two years cannot be interpreted as perfection — or anything like perfection — in race relations either North, South, East or West. There is yet far to go before we can point to a true Christian spirit between the races, the colors, and the religions represented in America.

Yet the people of Alabama, faced with problems far greater than those faced by most states, are making astonishing progress toward the solution of these problems—progress then may well be the greatest in any of the 48 states. We have much for which to be thankful in the character of leadership provided in recent years by top public officials such as our governors, United States Senators, and most of our congressmen and city and county officials. Politicians who seek power by the exploitation of race hatreds have not been doing so well in Alabama. That speaks well for the work of our churches and schools.

Tuskegee Reports '53 Was Lynch-Free Year; New 'Valid Index' Of Race Relations Planned

By REX THOMAS

TUSKEGEE, Ala., Dec. 30 (AP)—Tuskegee Institute recorded 1953 as another lynch-free year today, but said mob violence is no longer a "valid index" of race relations, and a new formula will be used in the future.

Lynching statistics will be preserved, said Tuskegee president L. H. Foster, but racial progress will be measured instead by economic, political, educational and other like standards.

The death rate from mob action has declined steadily through the years, but only once before, in 1952, did the nation get by without at least one lynching.

Although no mob killings were recorded this year, the report told of three "lynchings prevented." One was in Alabama, another in New York City, the third in Arizona.

(See Editorial, Page 4-A, "Tuskegee's New Standards Of Race Relation.")

Dr. Foster said violence has lost its significance as a yardstick of race relations because of "changes in the status of the Negro and the development of other, extra-legal means of control, such as bombings, incendiarism, threats and intimidation, etc."

"We believe that a new standard for measuring race relations is needed," said the Tuskegee president. "This can and should be as objective and as factual as were the lynching reports.

"This standard, we think, can best be established in such areas as employment and other economic conditions; in political participation; in education; in law and legislation; in health and perhaps other fields.

"We propose, then, in future annual releases, to issue a statement with information as significant for the present times as was the lynching letter in the past."

Elaborating, Dr. Foster, who has been Tuskegee's president only a few months, said the study probably will make a comparison of white and Negro standards in four categories:

1. Income relationship.
2. Voter participation.
3. Education and the per pupil cost.
4. Employment; comparative condition in certain jobs.

"We want to keep it as simple and objective as possible," the president continued, "so it can be readily understood.

"And we will draw very few if any inferences. We will leave that to the others. Our report will be purely factual as the lynching reports have been."

Details haven't been worked out, he said, but staff members at the Negro school will be called together in a conference soon to begin correlating the statistical information already on hand.

Lynching statistics will be kept up to date and will be made available to those who want them, Dr. Foster said.

Of the three incidents catalogued by Tuskegee as "lynching prevented" during 1953, two involved Negroes, the other a Puerto Rican.

A Negro, 18-year-old Henry Lee Brown, escaped from sheriff's deputies near Mobile last Jan. 17 while being taken to Kilby Prison after his arrest on a charge of killing a white woman, Mrs. Jesse Trueblood of Satsuma, Ala.

The Tuskegee report said Brown became "convinced that he was about to be lynched when his handcuffs were removed and the deputies stopped their car."

The officers said they stopped because the Negro promised to show them shells from the shotgun which he allegedly used to kill Mrs. Trueblood.

Brown, later tried, was acquitted.

In Mobile, Sheriff William H. Holcombe took issue with the report.

He said that there was "no reason for Brown to think he was going to be lynched."

"In fact," the sheriff said, Brown "was treated with utmost kindness and consideration the entire time he was in custody. At the time he dashed from the car my deputies said they easily could have killed him but that they knew I wanted him apprehended and that we eventually would catch him.

"The charge made by the Negro is not a true statement of facts."

Another attempted lynching, the Tuskegee report said, occurred in Central Park in New York City on May 24 after Edward Cartagena, 42-year-old Puerto Rican, stabbed his common law wife to death at a baseball game.

Mounted police and the game umpires rescued Cartagena after he was badly beaten by spectators. On Oct. 21, the Puerto Rican was committed to a state hospital for the criminally insane.

Tuskegee also credited an officer with saving the life of Arthur Thomas, 23-year-old Negro migrant farm worker accused of killing a white woman near Wilcox, Ariz., in March.

A member of a sheriff's posse had tossed a rope around the negro's neck and dragged him a short distance after his capture. Thomas later was convicted of the killing and given the death penalty. The conviction has been appealed.

Tuskegee's New Standards Of Race Relations

Tuskegee Institute is to be congratulated on its conclusion that lynching, or the absence of lynching, is no longer an index of race relations. A high rate of lynching, many years ago, could be correlated with bad feeling between the races to some extent. But even then it indicated the passions and criminal idiocy of just a small segment of the population. Today, the virtual disappearance of lynching, except in the North, is a good indication of bettered conditions, but it by no means proves that prejudice is gone and bigotry dead.

As much as anything else, the decline of lynching shows that public opinion acting on local law enforcement agencies can effectively deal with mob violence. And it took no federal anti-Lynch law to do it. That's what the South always said.

In proclaiming 1953, like 1952, another lynch-free year, Tuskegee announced that henceforth it would attempt to show a more complete picture of race relations by adding such factors as comparative economic, political and educational standards. If sufficient care is taken in collecting and interpreting such figures, they will give a better view of race conditions.

Dr. L. H. Foster, Tuskegee president, said that the new annual report will be objective and factual. Nothing less is expected of such an esteemed institution as Tuskegee. "We propose," said Dr. Foster, "in future annual releases to issue a statement with information as significant for the present times as was the lynching letter in the past." He listed the following four categories as the criteria for the new reports:

¶ Income relationship;

¶ Voter participation;

¶ Education and the per pupil cost;

¶ Employment, comparative conditions in certain jobs.

It is certainly true, as Dr. Foster has said, that these factors are more valid present-day standards for determining feeling than is lynching. But we hope the Institute will show not merely the present condition in the four categories—the Negro will certainly come out on bottom in most—but in the *change* from former years. In other words, it would be a better index of the improvement in relations between races to show the improvement in economic and political factors and not simply the present situation without amplification.

Suppose, for example, the Institute should find that for every $1 spent on a Negro student $2 is spent on a white student. That figure alone would indicate to the rest of the country and the rest of the world a pretty sorry state of affairs. Which is why the Institute should also point out that a few years ago, again using hypothetical figures, $2.50 was spent on every white child for every 50c spent on a Negro.

Enlightened legislation, economic improvement, greater voting participation—all these lag behind the feeling in the hearts of men. Should anti-Negro prejudice vanish overnight, you would not be able to prove it by tomorrow's expenditure on schools, or by the number of Negroes registered to vote by the end of 1954.

Again, the report should show *change* as well as *present conditions.*

MOSCOW PAPERS PLEASE COPY (BUT THEY WON'T)

Close to top favorite among Communist anti-American propaganda stories is the one about lynchings.

To hear the comrades tell it around the world, colored people by the thousand are murdered every year in all parts of this country by mobs of sadistic capitalists wearing plug hats and cutaway suits and smoking super-Churchill cigars.

Lynching Fade-out

So Tuskegee Institute, famous Alabama Negro college which has been reporting on this subject for decades, is now abandoning its annual Lynching Letter.

"Lynching," says Tuskegee's research department, "as a barometer for measuring the status of race relations in the United States, particularly the South, seems no longer to be a valid index to such relationships."

The reason is that lynching has just about faded out as an American tribal custom. There were no lynchings in 1952 or '53. There were six in 1949-'51.

Though one lynching is of course one too many, the U.S. lynching story always was exaggerated. Some statistics: In the period of 1882-1951, there were a total of 4,730 mob murders in the United States, with 3,437 of the victims colored and 1,293 white.

We're waiting for the Moscow press to report Tuskegee's dropping of its Lynching Letter for the reason stated above. But we expect to wait forever and forever.

The Negro's Progress.

For many years the annual statistics which shamed Americans was the tabulation of lynchings by Tuskegee Institute, the noted Negro college in Alabama. The only consolation was that the total got smaller almost every year.

Now, for two years running, the figure has been zero. As a result, Tuskegee concludes that lynchings are no longer a measuring stick for race relations, and announces that it will base its annual reports hereafter on other material.

The Negro draws small comfort, however, from the mere fact that his life is in less danger from hoodlums. He had that assurance under slavery.

What is much more cheering to him is the real progress his race has made in only a few years, in the South as well as other regions, towards equality of opportunity. "Jim Crow" is a great deal more than physical segregation. Gullah would exist to a large degree even were there no laws on the subject. It is the denial to the Negro of the right to compete for jobs even when he is unquestionably qualified for them, and hence a harsh economic barrier to better housing, better education for his children, and the other good things of life he desires and which some people think can be given him simply by repealing certain laws.

When Tuskegee in future years tabulates the statistics in that important field of race relations, we hope it will find a continuation of the recent steady progress and eventually will find all such tabulations outdated, too.

....

To most Americans that part of the Nichols story which is newsworthy will come as a heartening revelation. Couple it with the announcement from Tuskegee Institute that it has quit publishing the Lynch Letter because lynchings are no longer an index to race relations in the United States; the two together suggest that we may be doing much better than we know. Neither item is likely of publication in the Soviet press. But since the pivotal events of which Nichols writes occurred three years ago, and until now the nation has had only small bites of the story, there is room for remark that on the home front we are extravagantly wäséful of our own successes.

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N.Y. Times Book Review
p.3
Sun. Feb. 14, 1954

From Book Review-by S.L.A.Marshall
"Breakthrough on the Color Front.

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By REX THOMAS

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Again, the report should show *change* as well as *present conditions*.

No '53 Lynchings Reflects Progress

Tuskegee Institute Department of Records reveals the heartening, significant fact there were no lynchings in 1953—as there were none in 1952. In the three years preceding 1952 there were six.

In at least three instances, the report discloses, lynchings were prevented—one near Mobile, Ala.; the second near Willcox, Ariz., and the third in New York City.

Note well the geographic fact of these preventions, South, West, North. Thereby is illustrated that the mob mind is not regional. But, also emphasized is the fact that the mob mind remains as a force to be met with force when it occurs, and with a continuation of the improving public opinion against it. The honest commentator will not forget that federal laws have played a large part in the new attitude of the public and of certain law enforcement elements in situations where the mob mind must be met.

None the less, the news is heartening. It is good. It does mean we are making progress. It does mean we can make more. We must also make up our minds as a civilized people, whatever comes of the segregation issue before the court, that we as a people believing the Christian ethic; that we, a people living by a code of laws, will not allow violence to follow the decision, whatever our resentments, angers or disagreements may be.

Tuskegee announces that a new index to race relations will be issued in the future, along with the lynching report. The department says, truthfully:

"Lynchings as traditionally defined and as a barometer for measuring the status of race relations in the United States, particularly the South, seems no longer to be a valid index to such relationships. This is due to significant changes in the status of the Negro and to the development of other extra-legal means of control, such as bombings, incendiarism, threats and intimidation, etc.

"We believe that a new standard for measuring race relations is needed. This can and should be as objective and as factual as were the lynching reports. This standard, we think, can best be established in such areas as employment and other economic conditions; in political participation; in education; in law and legislation; in health and perhaps in other fields."

The new standard is needed. And the nation will accept it from Tuskegee because of that institution's honesty of purpose and the intellectual honesty and thoroughness which always has marked its work in whatever field.

'53 Lynchless, Race Report To Drop Index

TUSKEGEE, Ala., Dec. 20 (AP)—Tuskegee Institute recorded 1953 as another lynch-free year today, but said mob violence is no longer a "valid index" of race relations, and a new formula will be used in the future.

Lynching statistics will be preserved, said Tuskegee President L. H. Foster, but racial progress will be measured instead by economic, political, educational and other like standards.

The report told of three 1953 "lynchings prevented" in Alabama, New York City and Arizona.

Dr. Foster said the future study probably will make a comparison of white and Negro standards in four categories:

1. Income relationship.
2. Voter participation.
3. Education and the per-pupil cost.
4. Employment; comparative conditions in certain jobs.

Details have not been worked out, he said, but staff members at the Negro school will be called together in a conference soon to begin correlating the statistical information already on hand.

Of the three incidents catalogued as "lynchings prevented" during 1953, two involved Negroes, the other a Puerto Rican.

A Negro, 18-year-old Henry Lee Brown, escaped from sheriff's deputies near Mobile last January 17 while being taken to Kilby Prison after his arrest on a charge of killing a white woman, Mrs. Jesse Trueblood of Satsuma, Ala.

The Tuskegee report said Brown became "convinced that he was about to be lynched when his handcuffs were removed and the deputies stopped their car."

The officer said they stopped because the Negro promised to show them shells from the shotgun that he allegedly used to kill Mrs. Trueblood.

Brown was recaptured and later tried on the murder charge and acquitted.

Another attempted lynching, the Tuskegee report said, occurred in Central Park in New York City on May 24 after Edward Cartagena, 42-year-old Puerto Rican, stabbed his common-law wife to death at a baseball game.

Mounted police and the game umpires rescued Cartagena after he was badly beaten by spectators. On October 21, the Puerto Rican was committed to a state hospital for the criminally insane.

Tuskegee also credited an officer with saving the life of Arthur Thomas, 29-year-old Negro migrant farm worker accused of killing a white woman near Willcox, Ariz., in March.

A member of a sheriff's posse had tossed a rope around the Negro's neck and dragged him a short distance after his capture. Thomas later was convicted and given the death penalty. The conviction is pending before the State Supreme Court.

1953 Was Another Lynch -Free Year

Tuskegee, Ala., Dec. 30 (AP)—Tuskegee Institute recorded 1953 as another lynch-free year today, but said mob violence is no longer a "valid index" of race relations and so will use a new formula in the future.

Lynching statistics will be preserved, said Tuskegee President L. H. Foster, but racial progress will be measured instead by economic, political, educational, and other standards.

The death rate from mob action has declined steadily through the years, but only once before, in 1952, did the nation get by without at least one lynch slaying.

Although no mob killings were recorded this year, the report told of three "lynchings prevented." One was in Alabama, another in New York City, the third in Arizona.

Dr. Foster said lynch violence has lost its significance as a yardstick of race relations because of "changes in the status of the Negro and the development of other extra-legal means of control, such as bombings, incendiarism, threats and intimidations, etc."

"We believe that a new standard for measuring race relations is needed," said the Tuskegee president. "This can and should be as objective and as factual as were the lynching reports.

"This standard, we think, can best be established in such areas as employment and other economic conditions, in political participation, in education, in law and legislation, in health, and perhaps other fields.

"We propose, then, in future annual releases, to issue a statement with information as significant for the present times as was the lynching letter in the past."

Elaborating, Dr. Foster said the study probably will make a comparison of white and Negro standards in four categories:

1. Income relationship.
2. Voter participation.
3. Education and per pupil cost.
4. Employment; comparative conditions in certain jobs.

Tuskegee Reports 2nd Lynch-Free Year; New Yardstick To Measure Race Relations

Constitution
Atlanta Ga.

TUSKEGEE, Ala., Dec. 30 (AP)—Tuskegee Institute recorded 1953 as another lynch-free year today, but said mob violence is no longer a "valid index" of race relations, and a new formula will be used in the future.

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Elaborating, Dr. Foster, who has been Tuskegee's president only a few months, said the study probably will make a comparison of white and Negro standards in four categories:

1. Income relationship.
2. Voter participation.
3. Education and the per pupil cost.
4. Employment; comparative conditions in certain jobs.

No '53 Lynchings Reflects Progress

Constitution
Atlanta Ga.

Tuskegee Institute Department of Records reveals the heartening, significant fact there were no lynchings in 1953—as there were none in 1952. In the three years preceding 1952 there were six.

In at least three instances, the report discloses, lynchings were prevented—one near Mobile, Ala.; the second near Willcox, Ariz., and the third in New York City.

Note well the geographic fact of these preventions, South, West, North. Thereby is illustrated that the mob mind is not regional. But, also emphasized is the fact that the mob mind remains as a force to be met with force when it occurs, and with a continuation of the improving public opinion against it. The honest commentator will not forget that federal laws have played a large part in the new attitude of the public and of certain law enforcement elements in situations where the mob mind must be met.

None the less, the news is heartening. It is good. It does mean we are making progress. It does mean we can make more. We must also make up our minds as a civilized people, whatever comes of the segregation issue before the court, that we as a people believing the Christian ethic; that we, a people living by a code of laws, will not allow violence to follow the decision, whatever our resentments, angers or disagreements may be.

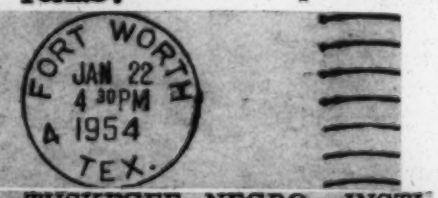
Tuskegee announces that a new index to race relations will be issued in the future, along with the lynching report. The department says, truthfully:

"Lynchings as traditionally defined and as a barometer for measuring the status of race relations in the United States, particularly the South, seems no longer to be a valid index to such relationships. This is due to significant changes in the status of the Negro and to the development of other extra-legal means of control, such as bombings, incendiarism, threats and intimidation, etc.

"We believe that a new standard for measuring race relations is needed. This can and should be as objective and as factual as were the lynching reports. This standard, we think, can best be established in such areas as employment and other economic conditions; in political participation; in education; in law and legislation; in health and perhaps in other fields."

The new standard is needed. And the nation will accept it from Tuskegee because of that institution's honesty of purpose and the intellectual honesty and thoroughness which always has marked its work in whatever field.

Clipping received without name of paper, date, etc. from Fort Worth, Texas.



TUSKEGEE NEGRO INSTITUTE over in Alabama reports that for the second straight year, no lynchings took place in the United States. This happy situation now offers idle Tuskegee lynch statisticians an opportunity to study other crimes affecting our colored population.

For example, FBI records indicate that about 17,000 criminal attacks on women occur annually in this country — averaging a rape every half hour. Since the New Dealers long ago abolished the "discriminatory" parctice of keeping federal crime statistics by racial groups, Tukegee Institute could perform a public service by telling us how many of those 17,000 rapes per year are committed by Negroes.

Tuskegee Institute has never lost an opportunity to publicize outrageous crimes committed by white persons against colored folks. Why not turn the spotlight on crimes committed by Negroes against white victims?

Institute Reports Second Consecutive Year Without Lynching In Nation

Herald

For the second consecutive year and the only two years in its 42 years of keeping records, Tuskegee Institute reported that no lynching took place in the United States during 1953. Mob violence has been steadily declining through the years but this was the first when not one was reported.

The annual report by the Department of Records and Research at the Institute recorded, however, three instances in which lynchings were prevented. One of these occurred last Jan. 17 near Mobile, when Henry Lee James, 17, escaped from sheriff's deputies while being taken to Kilby Prison. The other two cases of near-lynchings took place in Arizona and New York.

The report set out that lynching "seems no longer to be a valid index" to race relationships. In the future a new standard will be used and will include economic, political, educational and professional factors.

ynch-Free Year Recorded; Tuskegee to Use New Index

By RICK THOMAS

TUSKEGEE, Ala., Dec. 30 (AP)—Tuskegee Institute recorded 1953 as another lynch-free year today, but said mob violence is no longer a "valid index" of race relations, and a new formula will be used in the future.

Lynching statistics will be preserved, said Dr. L. H. Foster, but racial progress will be measured instead by economic, political, educational and other like standards.

The death rate from mob action has declined steadily through the years, but only once before, in 1952, did the nation get by without at least one lynch slaying.

Although no mob killings were recorded this year, the report told of three "lynchings prevented." One was in Alabama, another in New York City, the third in Arizona.

Dr. Foster said lynch violence has lost its significance as a yardstick of race relations because of "changes in the status of the Negro and the development of other extra-legal means of control, such as bombings, incendiarism, threats and intimidation, etc."

"We believe that a new standard for measuring race relations is needed," said the Tuskegee president. "This can and should be as objective and as factual as were the lynching reports.

"This standard, we think, can best be established in such areas as employment and other economic conditions; in political participation; in education; in law and legislation; in health and perhaps other fields.

"We propose, then, in future annual releases, to issue a statement with information as significant for the present times as was the lynching letter in the past."

Elaborating, Dr. Foster, who has been Tuskegee's president only a few months, said the study probably will make a comparison of white and Negro standards in four categories:

1. Income relationship.
2. Voter participation.
3. Education and the per pupil cost.
4. Employment; comparative conditions in certain jobs.

"We want to keep it as simple and objective as possible," the president continued "so it can be readily understood.

"And we will draw very few if any inferences. We will leave that to the others. Our report will be purely factual as the lynching reports have been."

Details haven't been worked out, he said, but staff members at the Negro school will be called together in a conference soon to begin correlating the statistical information already on hand.

Lynching statistics will be kept up to date and will be made available to those who want them, Dr. Foster said.

Lynchings Prevented

Of the three incidents catalogued by Tuskegee as "lynchings prevented" during 1953, two involved Negroes, the other a Puerto Rican.

A Negro, 18-year-old Henry Lee Brown, escaped from sheriff's deputies near Mobile last Jan. 17 while being taken to Kilby prison after his arrest on a charge of killing a white woman, Mrs. Jesse Trueblood of Satsuma, Ala.

The Tuskegee report said Brown became "convinced that he was about to be lynched when his handcuffs were removed and the deputies stopped their car."

The officers said they stopped because the Negro promised to show them shells from the shotgun which he allegedly used to kill Mrs. Trueblood.

Brown, later tried, was acquitted.

Sheriff Objects

In Mobile, Sheriff William H. Holcombe took issue with the report.

He said that there was "no reason for Brown to think he was going to be lynched.

"In fact," the sheriff said, Brown "was treated with utmost kindness and consideration the entire time he was in custody. At the time he dashed from the car my deputies said they easily could have killed him but that they knew I wanted no bloodshed and that we eventually would catch him.

"The charge made by the Negro is not a true statement of facts."

Another attempted lynching, the Tuskegee report said, occurred in Central Park in New York City on May 24 after Edward Cartagena, 42-year-old Puerto Rican, stabbed his common law wife to death at a baseball game.

Mounted police and the game umpires rescued Cartagena after he was badly beaten by spectators.

On Oct. 21, the Puerto Rican was committed to a state hospital for the criminally insane.

No Lynchings in '53

Tuskegee Revises Relations Index

BY TOM ALEXANDER
Ledger Staff Writer

TUSKEGEE, Ala.—The last of the famous "lynch reports" from Tuskegee Institute was released yesterday, and for the second straight year there were no lynchings to report.

Though in at least three instances lynchings were prevented, the university will abandon lynch as an index for race relations and subsequent reports will tabulate statistics in other areas, President L. H. Foster announced.

'No Longer Valid'

"Lynching as traditionally defined and as a barometer for measuring the status of race relations in the United States, particularly in the South, seems no longer to be a valid index of such relationships," the report said in part.

This was due to changes in the status of the Negro and to an increase of other extra-legal ways of control such as bombings, threats, intimidation and incendiarism, the report went on to say.

Foster said subsequent reports would be in other areas that seem to have some relationship to the status of the Negro.

"These can and should be as objective as were the lynching reports. This standard, we think, can best be established in such areas as employment and other economic conditions; in political participation; in education; in law and legislation; in health and perhaps in other fields."

The Tuskegee Department of Records and Research, authors of the report, will continue to compile statistics on lynching and will furnish them to those who request it.

The report recorded, however, three near lynchings as defined by the department.

"On January 17, near Mobile, Alabama, Henry Lee Brown, 17 year old Negro, escaped from Sheriff's deputies while being taken to Kilby Prison at Montgomery. Convinced that he was about to be lynched when his handcuffs were removed and the deputies stopped their car, the prisoner jumped from the car which he rode and ran into the swamps while shots were fired at him. He later gave himself up, was tried and acquitted of the charge of slaying a white woman.

"In March, near Wilmona, Arthur Thomas, 21 year old Negro migrant cotton worker, accused of murdering a white woman storekeeper, was saved from lynching by an officer of the law.

"On May 24, at New York City, Edward Cartagena, 42 year old Puerto Rican, was rescued from a mob by two umpires of a baseball game and the mounted police. Before several hundred persons watching the game in Central Park, Cartagena stabbed his estranged common-law wife to death. Players and spectators tried to kill him."

The year 1953 was the first with no lynchings reported, using the definition of the term employed by Tuskegee's Department of Records and Research, compilers of the "Negro Yearbook" from which the "lynch letters" were excerpts. The "Negro Yearbook" is a collection of facts and figures dealing with the Negro, his economy, occupations, education, position under the law and political activity. It is now in its 11th edition and is revised about every three years.

Objective Measures

The School's Department of Records and Research, under the direction of Mrs. Jessie P. Guzman, does not try to interpret its statistics. Dr. Foster said the group believes that objective measurements in areas known to have racial significance, such as employment, politics, income and amount spent per child in education, are the best ways of measuring race relations.

Tuskegee officials will meet to set up the organization and standards for future reports shortly, Foster said.

1953 Lynch-Free; New 'Index' Due

TUSKEGEE, Ala., Dec. 30 (AP).—Tuskegee Institute recorded 1953 as another lynch-free year today, but said mob violence was no longer a "valid index" of race relations and that a new formula would be used in the future.

Lynching statistics will be preserved, said Dr. L. H. Foster, Tuskegee president, but racial progress will be measured instead by economic, political, educational and other like standards.

The death rate from mob action has declined steadily through the years, but only once before, in 1952, did the nation get by without at least one lynch slaying.

Although no mob killing were recorded this year, the report told of three "lynchings prevented." One was in Alabama, another in New York City, the third in Arizona.

"We believe that a new standard for measuring race relations is needed," said the Tuskegee president. "This can and should be as objective and as factual as were the lynching reports.

"This standard, we think, can best be established in such areas as employment and other economic conditions; in political participation; in education; in law and legislation; in health and perhaps other fields."

Tuskegee To Use New Race Index

By The Associated Press

TUSKEGEE, Ala., Dec. 30.—Tuskegee Institute recorded 1953 as another lynch-free year today, but said mob violence is no longer a "valid index" of race relations, and a new formula will be used in the future.

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"We believe that a new standard for measuring race relations is needed," he said. "This can and should be as objective and as factual as were the lynching reports.

"This standard, we think, can best be established in such areas as employment and other economic conditions; in political participation; in education; in law and legislation; in health and perhaps other fields.

"We propose, then, in future annual releases, to issue a statement with information as significant for the present times as was the lynching letter in the past."

Dr. Foster, who has been Tuskegee's president only a few months, said the study probably will make a comparison of white and Negro standards in four categories: income relationship, voters participation, education and the per pupil cost, and employment with comparative conditions in certain jobs.

Tuskegee To Drop Lynching Report; Will Make New Survey

TUSKEGEE, Ala. — (ANP) — Tuskegee Institute declared last week that it is dropping its famed anti-lynching reports, for 41 years the nation's top barometer on race relations.

Dr. Luther H. Foster, [illegible] president, announced that [illegible] a new summer survey [illegible] employment, politics, education, health and others.

Declaring that the [illegible] lynching no longer have a true picture of the racial problem, Dr. Foster announced the new type of report in issuing what probably will be the last Tuskegee Annual Lynching Letter.

SECOND STRAIGHT YEAR

This year's letter said that for the second straight year no lynchings were reported in the United States. It did, however, reveal that lynchings were prevented in at least three instances during 1953. These instances were:

Jan. 17, near Mobile, Ala., when Henry Lee Brown, 17, escaped deputies when he feared he would be lynched while they were taking him to Kilby prison in Montgomery. The deputies had taken off his handcuffs and stopped their cars. Later when he gave himself up, he was tried and found innocent of a charge of slaying a white woman.

In March, near Wilcox, Arizona, Arthur Thomas, 29, Negro, accused of murdering a white woman, was saved by an alert lawman.

May 24, in New York City, Edward Cartagena, 42, a Pureto Rican, was saved by two baseball umpires and mounted police in Central Park after he stabbed his estranged common-law wife to death as several hundred persons looked on.

The report stated that during the past five years there were only six lynchings.

As a result in the decline of lynchings and the appearance of more subtle forms of discrimination, Tuskegee has proposed what it calls an index to race relations. Of this new report, which will come out on Dec. 31, 1954, Dr. Foster said:

"Lynching as traditionally defined (person killed by mob of 3 or more) and as a barometer for measuring the status of race relations in the United States, particularly the South, seems no longer to be a valid index to such relationships. This is due to significant changes in the status of the Negro and to the development of other extra-legal means of control, such as bombings, incendiarism, threats and intimidation, etc.

"We believe that a new standard for measuring race relations is needed. This can and should be as objective and as factual as were the lynching reports. This standard, we think, can best be established in such areas as employment and other economic conditions; in political participations; in education; in law and legislation; in health and perhaps in other fields.

"We propose then, in future annual releases, to issue a statement with information as significant for the present times as was the Annual Lynching Letter in the past."

The 1953 report thus marks the end of an era in American race relations—one in which Negroes were beaten and intimidated physically into submission to whites—and the beginning of a new one—in which "legal" means are used to thwart the Negroes' fight for first class citizenship.

Tuskegee thus ends 41 years of reporting on lynching and the report probably did more in bringing to the attention of the American public the evils of lynching than any other criteria.

The department of records and research at Tuskegee will continue to record all lynchings and will send such information to those who may request it.

Tuskegee Bureau Finds No Lynchings to Report for Year; New Standard Needed

Tuskegee, Ala.—According to criteria used in the Department of Records and Research, Tuskegee Institute, for the second consecutive year, has no lynchings to report. The 5 years, 1949-1953, show a total of 6 lynchings.

Lynchings prevented: However, in at least 3 instances lynchings were prevented. Reports on these follow:

On January [illegible] near Mobile, Alabama, Henry Lee Brown, 17 year old Negro, escaped from Sheriff's deputies while being taken to Kilby Prison at Montgomery. Convinced that he was about to be lynched when his handcuffs were removed and the deputies stopped their cars, the prisoner jumped from the car in which he rode and ran into the swamps, while [illegible] fired at him. He later gave himself up, was tried and acquitted of the charge of slaying a white woman.

In March near Wilcox, Arizona, Arthur Thomas, 29 year old Negro migrant cotton worker, accused of murdering a white woman storekeeper, was saved from lynching by an officer of the law.

On May 24, at New York City, Edward Cartagena, 42 year old Puerto Rican, was rescued from a mob by two umpires of a baseball game and the mounted police. Before several hundred persons watching the game in Central Park, Cartagena stabbed his estranged common-law wife to death. Players and spectators [illegible] to kill him.

New Index

New index to race relations will be issued. Lynching as traditionally defined and as a barometer for measuring the status of race relations in the United States, particularly the South, seems no longer to be a valid index to such relationships. This is due to significant changes in the status of the Negro and to the development of other extra-legal means of control, such as bombings, incendiarism, threats and intimidation, etc.

"We believe that a new standard for measuring race relations is needed. This can and should be as objective and as factual as were the lynching reports. This standard, we think, can best be established in such areas as employment and other economic conditions; in political participation; in education; in law and legslaton; in health and perhaps in other fields.

"We propose then, in future annual releases, to issue a statement with information as significant for the present times as was the Annual Lynching Letter in the past.

"The Department of Records and Research, which has recorded lynchings for the last forty-one years, will continue to do so, and will furnish such information to those who may request it," L. H. Foster, president of Tuskegee, informed.

Another Year of No Lynchings

Can No Longer Be Used To Measure Race Relations

TUSKEGEE INSTITUTE, Ala.—For the second consecutive year, the department of records and research at Tuskegee Institute has recorded no lynchings in the year 1953. No lynchings were reported for the year 1952.

In its annual release to the press on the number of lynchings, the institute, through its president, Dr. Luther H. Foster said that the last five years, 1949-53, show a total of only six lynchings.

Because of the decline in the number of lynchings and since lynchings no longer seem to be a barometer for measuring the status of relations in the United States, Dr. Foster said that Tuskegee in the future will issue a statement "with information as significant for the present times as was the annual lynching letter in the past."

The new Tuskegee president said:

"Lynching, as traditionally defined and as a barometer for measuring the status of race relations in the United States, particularly in the South, seems no longer to be a valid index to such relationships. This is due to significant changes in the status of the Negro and to the development of other extra-legal means of control, such as bombings, incendiarism, threats and intimidation, etc.

"We believe that a new standard for measuring race relations is needed. This can and should be as objective and as factual as were the lynching reports. This standard, we think, can best be established in such areas as employment and other economic conditions; in political participation; in education; in law and legislation; in health and perhaps in other fields.

"We propose, then, in future annual releases, to issue a statement with information as significant for the present times as was the annual lynching letter in the past.

"The department of records and research

...which has recorded lynchings for the last 41 years, will continue to do so and will furnish such information to those who may request it."

Dr. Foster reported three instances this year in which lynchings were prevented. His reports on these follow:

"On January 17, near Mobile, Ala., Henry Lee Brown, 17 year old Negro, escaped from Sheriff's deputies while being taken to Kilby Prison at Montgomery. Convinced that he was about to be lynched when his handcuffs were removed and the deputies stopped their cars, the prisoner jumped from the car in which he rode and ran into the swamps, while shots were fired at him. He later gave himself up, was tried and acquitted of the charge of slaying a white woman.

"In March, near Willcox, Ariz., Arthur Thomas, 29 year old Negro migrant cotton worker, accused of murdering a white woman storekeeper, was saved from lynching by an officer of the law.

"On May 24, at New York city, Edward Cartagena, 42 year old Puerto Rican, was rescued from a mob by two umpires of a baseball game and the mounted police before several hundred persons watching the game in Central Park. Cartagena stabbed his estranged common-law wife to death. Players and spectators tried to kill him."

Tuskegee Inst. To Discontinue Annual Report On Lynchings

1953 Report Marks End Of Practice Of 41 Years

TUSKEGEE, Ala.—Tuskegee Institute declared last week that it is dropping its famed anti-lynchings reports, for 41 years the nation's top barometer on race relations.

Dr. Luther H. Foster, Tuskegee president, announced the new type of report in issuing what probably will be the last Tuskegee Annual Lynching letter.

This year's letter said that for the second straight year no lynchings were reported in the United States. It did, however, reveal that lynchings were prevented in at least three instances during 1953. These were:

Jan. 17 near Mobile, Ala., when Henry Lee Brown, 17, escaped deputies when he feared he would be lynched while they were taking him to Kilby prison in Montgomery. The deputies had taken off his handcuffs and stopped their cars. Later when he gave himself up, he was tried and found innocent of a charge of slaying a white woman.

In March, near Wilcox, Ariz., Arthur Thomas, 29, Negro accused of murdering a white woman, was saved by an alert lawman.

May 24, in New York City, Edward Cartagena, 42, a Puerto Rican, was saved by two baseball umpires and mounted police in Central Park after he stabbed his estranged common-law wife to death as several hundred persons looked on.

The report stated that during the past five years there were only six lynchings.

As a result of the drop in lynchings and the appearance of more subtle forms of discrimination, Tuskegee has proposed what it calls an index to race relations. Of this report, which will come out on Dec. 31, 1954, Dr. Foster said:

"Lynchings as traditionally defined (persons killed by mob of (or more) and as a barometer for measuring the status of race relations in the United States, particularly the South, seems no longer to be a valid index to such relationships. This is due to significant changes in the status of the Negro and to the development of other extra-legal means of control, such as bombing, incendiarism, threats and intimidation, etc.

"We believe that a new standard for measuring race relations is needed. This can and should be as objective and as factual as were the lynching reports. This standard, we think, can be best established in such areas as employment and other economic conditions; in political participations; in education; in health and perhaps in other fields.

"We propose then, in future annual releases, to issue a statement with information as significant for the present times as was the Annual Lynching Letter in the past."

The 1953 report thus marks the end of an era in American race relations, one in which Negroes were beaten and intimidated physically into submission to whites and the beginning of a new one, in which legal means are used to thwart the Negroes' fight for first class citizenship.

Tuskegee thus ends 41 years reporting on lynching, and the report probably did more to bring to the attention of the American public the evils of lynching than any other criteria.

The department of records and research at Tuskegee will continue to record all lynchings and will send such information to those who request it.

Past Year Was 2nd In Row Without Lynching, Report

In its annual report on lynchings issued at the end of each year, the Tuskegee Institute department of records and research had no lynchings to report, but revealed that three would-be lynchings were prevented in the course of the year.

At the same time, the Department announced that it was abandoning as a "valid index to race relations" incidents of lynchings as they are "traditionally defined."

A new index of significance for present times, will be established, the department related, and information gained during the year will be disseminated just as the lynching reports have been.

"Lynching as traditionally defined and as a barometer for measuring the status of race relations in the United States, particularly the South, seems no longer to be a valid index to such relationships. This is due to significant changes in the status of the Negro and to the development of other extra-legal means of control, such as bombings, incendiarism, threats and intimidation, ec.

"We believe that a new standard for measuring race relations is needed. This can and should be as objective and as factual as were the lynching reports. This standard, we think can best be established in such areas as employment and other economic conditions; in political participation; in education; in law and legislation; in health and perhaps in other fields.

"We propose then, in future annual releases, to issue a statement with information as significant for the present times as was the Annual Lynching Letter in the past," the department stated.

The Department of Records and Research, which has become famous for its annual reporting of lynchings during the past 41 years, also reveals in this year's report that six lynchings took place in the last five years, 1949-1953.

Three persons were saved from certain lynchings during the past year, the department reported.

On January 17, near Mobile, Alabama, Henry Lee Brown, 17 year old Negro, escaped from Sheriff's deputies while being taken to Kilby Prison at Montgomery. Convinced that he was about to be lynched when his handcuffs were removed and the deputies stopped their cars, the prisoner jumped from the car in which he rode and ran into the swamps, while shots were fired at him. He later gave himself up, was tried and acquitted of the charge of slaying a white woman.

In March, near Willcox, Ariz., Arthur Thomas, 29 year old Negro migrant cotton worker, accused of murdering a white woman storekeeper, was saved from lynching by an officer of the law.

On May 24, at New York City, Edward Cartagena, 42 year old Puerto Rican, was rescued from a mob by two umpires of a baseball game in Central Park, Cartagena stabbed his estranged common-law wife to death. Players and spectators tried to kill him.

27j 1953

Illinois

8614

Posse Nabs 2 Teen-Agers in Killing of Cop

Vandalia, Ill., Feb. 11 [Special]—Aided by two airplanes and farm wives' telephoned reports, a posse of nearly 200 law officers and volunteers today captured two young men sought for killing a deputy sheriff who had arrested them for a minor infraction.

Their seizure as they hid in a briar patch in a cemetery 8 miles northeast of here, climaxed a search that had been in progress nearly 12 hours.

State's Atty. Martin J. Corbell identified the captured pair as Virgil Allen, 16, and Albert Cahoon, 14, both of Vandalia.

Report Confession

He said they confessed the shooting, Allen admitted firing the shot that killed Deputy Clarence Kelly, 37. He said he two also confessed they burglarized two Vandalia schools and a hardware store, taking $800 worth of loot in the latter place.

Deputy Sheriff S. A. Cheshier said the two young burglars apparently had gone to St. Louis yesterday to dispose of some of their loot and were returning last night on a St. Louis-to-Chicago bus when they created a disturbance that caused their initial arrest.

The bus driver, Raleigh Walker, telephoned ahead to Vandalia and asked police to remove the pair because their actions were annoying other passengers. Deputy Kelly met the bus and took the two into custody.

Shot at Jail's Garage

"Because they appeared to be just boys, Kelly put them in the back seat of his car when he drove them to the county jail," Deputy Cheshier related.

"When he got to the garage, one of them pulled out a gun and shot him in the back of the head. The car went right on thru the garage and tore out the end of it. The two got away."

Immediately after the shooting, at 12:40 a. m., authorities began blocking roads and assembling a posse. Joining in the search were more than 30 state policemen, sheriff's deputies from adjoining counties, policemen from nearby towns, and numerous farmers and other volunteers. A state police plane and a private plane took to the air to act as spotters for the ground searchers.

"Even farm women helped in the search," Deputy Cheshier reported. "They were on the lookout for the pair and, when some of the women happened to spot them, they telephoned the sheriff's office immediately and we were able to direct the searchers in the field."

Cheshier said the pilot of the private plane, which had no radio, caught sight of the fleeing young men and waggled his wings — a pre-arranged signal — which sent ground forces to the vicinity of the Griffith cemetery, where they were hiding.

Lee Curry, a district deputy game warden, was the first member of the posse to see them. He walked within 10 feet of the hiding youngsters before he noticed them. They offered no resistance to his command to surrender.

27 J 1953

ITALY

8615

Jilted Girl's Hunger Strike Rouses Housewives to Action

BARLETTA, Italy, Oct. 3—(UP). A 21-year-old girl collapsed Saturday after a 48-hour hunger strike in front of her former fiance's home and neighbors almost lynched the man.

An angry crowd of women stormed the home of Ruggiero Dicorato, 25, the man, when the girl collapsed after sitting under his window for 48 hours without food.

"I will starve myself to death under your eyes," Chiara Divieste told Dicorato when he broke his engagement to her two days ago.

He didn't believe her, but Chiara sat down in front of his home and refused food. When she fainted early Saturday angry housewives stormed the house to lynch Dicorato. Police rushed to the house and calmed the women.

8616

100-Man Posse Pursues Man

LAKE CHARLES, La. — (INS) — Calcasieu Parish (County) Law enforcement officers pressed a search for an unidentified Negro man wanted in connection with the fatal shooting of a deputy sheriff.

A 100-man posse using bloodhounds combed a 20 square mile area about 10 miles north of Lake Charles, where the assailant is believed to be hiding.

Identification superintendent Richard Roberts said Deputy Sheriff Albert Goos, 63, was shot in the neck Tuesday night by an unidentified man he had arrested on a trespassing charge. The bullet ripped through the deputy's neck, cutting the jugular vein.

Roberts said it was later discovered that the man was driving an automobile stolen Tuesday morning at Corpus Christi, Tex. He added that the man is believed to be the same person who earlier eluded Louisiana state police when they sought to question him about the car.

La. Posse Of 200 Fails To Find Man Who Killed Deputy

LAKE CHARLES, La. (ANP) — A sheriff's posse of more than 200 men, deputies, state troopers and volunteers have been foiled in their attempt to capture a man who is alleged to have slain 63-year-old Albert Bel Goos, a special deputy serving without pay.

The sheriff's office reported that Goos was slain June 3 while in the act of investigating the theft of a car in which a man was seen sleeping. The information was given to Goos by his son who said that he had observed the man in a parked car on a farm 17 miles north of here.

Following the slaying, road blocks were set up and posses were organized to search the heavily wooded areas into which the fugitive is thought to have fled. Also called into play was the Civil Air Patrol which was to search the swamp area and the recently flooded sections of the Calcasieu river.

Over 25-Mile Radius

Louisiana Manhunt Continues

LAKE CHARLES, La. —(INS)— Calcasieu parish (county) law enforcement officers resumed and intensified a search Thursday for an unidentified Negro man wanted in connection with the fatal shooting of a deputy sheriff.

Identification Supt. Richard Roberts said the manhunt was temporarily called off Wednesday night when searching parties became exhausted but was resumed Thursday covering an area of 25-mile radius.

The deputy, Albert Bel Goos, 63, was shot Tuesday after he arrested the man on a trespassing charge. The bullet ripped into his neck, cutting the jugular vein.

STRAY COW

Goos' son saw the man sleeping on the front seat of an automobile while he was looking for a stray cow in the little cattle raising community of Hecker some 10 miles north of Lake Charles. He told his father, who returned to investigate.

The deputy met the man driving down the road and placed him under arrest. He asked to get out of the car and got out on the opposite side from the deputy. He fired one shot, fatally wounding Goos.

Roberts said the wounded deputy returned the fire with seven shots from a .30-30 rifle. Four of the bullets pierced the automobile.

NO BLOODSTAINS

Roberts added that Goos gasped before he died that he may have hit his assailant with one shot, although there were no bloodstains leading from the bullet-riddled car.

The automobile was reported stolen Tuesday morning at Corpus Christi, Texas.

Fingerprints found on the vehicle have been sent to the FBI.

Louisiana state police believe the wanted man may be the same one who eluded troopers early Tuesday when they stopped him to investigate the stolen car report.

8617

White Posse Slays Man In Mississippi

STARKVILLE, Miss. — (ANP)— Odom Smith, 28, was killed by a white posse in Morgantown community last week after he, according to Sheriff Bill Harpole, had shot and killed a 85-year-old white man and his 61-year-old son. In addition the dead man is said to have beaten two white women before he was finally slain by a member of a posse which sought him.

The sheriff said that Smith had probably "lost his mind" after engaging in an argument with his father, Grant Smith, 60, whom he shot at, the latter escaping uninjured.

Smith, according to reports, then started on a rampage. He entered the home of a white family, beating a mother and her 16-year-old daughter. The daughter is said to have wounded Smith in the leg with a .22 calibre rifle.

Continuing his escapade, Smith journeyed a short distance down the road where he met a white man whom he allegedly beat and robbed of about $8. A home was entered and its owner killed with his own shotgun.

Then, the son whom Smith had earlier beaten and robbed, had regained consciousness, and on entering the house, he too, was killed.

A posse was formed at once with Smith their immediate object. He was killed a short time later and his death declared "justifiable homicide."

Miss. Posse Slays Man

Had Killed Two, Wounded 2 Whites

STARKVILLE, Miss. (ANP)— Odom Smith, 28, was killed by a white posse near here last week after he, according to Sheriff Bill Harpole, had shot and killed a 85-year-old white man and his 61-year-old son.

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Posse Kills Man Who 'Lost Mind'

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27j 1953

NEBRASKA

8619

Posse of 500 Nabs Suspect

NORTH PLATTE, Neb.—(AP)—A search for the suspected slayer of a state highway patrolman ended Sunday when James Fish was found hiding under a loading platform of a warehouse.

A posse of 500 volunteers, including National Guardsmen, along with 14 private airplanes started the search at daybreak after the slaying of Patrolman Vernon Rohlfs, 38, of North Platte.

Rohlfs was shot and killed as he drove toward North Platte with two men he had arrested for speeding.

County Attorney J. G. McIntosh said Harvey A. Lock, of Albion, Ind., a passenger in Fish's car, said in a written statement that he had disarmed Fish after the shooting but Fish escaped on foot.

27j 1953

NEW YORK

8618

Woman Slain On Ball Field, Knifer Mobbed

Two mounted cops rescued a killer from an enraged mob in Central Park yesterday after he knifed a woman to death in full view of 1000 spectators at a baseball game.

The infuriated witnesses beat the killer with fists and baseball bats, kicked him and clawed him with fingernails.

The savage slaying and mob scene took place during a baseball game on a field off 97th St. in the center of the park.

Woman Stabbed.

Among the onlookers were Mrs. Carmella Olivo, 32, of 126 E. 103rd St., and her sister, Virginia Orilber, 29, of 64 E. 112th St. They were approached during the second inning by Mrs. Olivo's former common-law husband, Edward Cartagena, 42, of 14 W. 104th St.

Cartagena started an argument. The two women started to walk away from him. He followed, whipped out a steak knife with a six-inch blade and stabbed Mrs. Olivo in the chest.

Bleeding and hysterical, she ran screaming across the baseball diamond. He caught up with her at the backstop and plunged the long blade repeatedly into her neck, chest and shoulders.

Mob Clubs Killer.

A roar of fury rose from the crowd as Mrs. Olivo dropped to the ground and died. Surrounded by frenzied witnesses, Cartagena held off the mob for a minute with his bloody knife. Then a man clubbed him with a baseball bat and he collapsed. The mob swarmed over his prostrate form, beating and kicking him.

Mounted Patrolmen James Reynolds and Vincent Tampone galloped to the ball field and forced a path through the crowd with their horses. They kept the revenge-bent attackers at bay until an ambulance arrived to take Cartagena to Knickerbocker Hospital.

By this time the crowd had swelled to several thousand. Radio cars rushed to the scene and 20 cops had all they could do to handle the throng.

Cartagena was charged with homicide. He suffered a fractured skull, severe cuts and bruises.

8620

North Carolina Posse Searches For 3 Suspects

CARTHAGE, N. C. — (ANP) — Three Negroes are hunted men today, and three others are jail inmates because one of them shot and killed the chief of police of Carthage, N. C. early Sunday morning.

A white posse of 30 state and city police officers and 50 civilians are scouring the hills and woods south west of Carthage for three fugitives said to be J. D. Dowd, Harry (Scotty) Richardson and Junebug Morrison.

Captives in the Carthage jail are the fugitives' three buddies, James McLaughlin, 20; Ed Brooks, 23, and James Worley, 17.

The dead man is Police Chief Bernice (Bunn) Cameron, 50.

According to the police version of the incident, it all started because the youngsters entered a filling station early Sunday morning, ordered $2 worth of gas, then drove off without paying.

Billy Bryant, owner of the gas station, and a neighbor, Richard Sheppard, both white, hopped into an auto and chased the Negroes. A couple of shotgun blasts changed their minds, and they reported the incident to police. Sheppard was injured slightly.

Because Bryant recognized one of the colored men, he took Chief Cameron by that man's house. As they were about to leave the squad car, a shot from the house hit the chief in the head. Policemen Hugh Strider drove him to a hospital but he died shortly afterwards.

Then the chase was on. Someone spotted the Negroes' auto parked 10 miles south of Carthage at the home of Dowd's father-in-law, Lloyd McNair. As the police approached, the car sped away. Officers moved out after it in their squad cars.

8621

Armed Mob Continues Hunt For Double-Murder Suspect

PAMPLICO, S. C.—(INS)— Police aided by armed citizens grimly tracked down every one of numerous leads in the search for a share-cropper wanted in the decapitation of a young Pamplico girl and the murder of her escort.

A posse of 200 men, acting on a tip, made an intensive — but fruitless—search of a wooded area within the town limits this morning for Raymond Carney, alias J. W. Page, 38-year-old Negro who has become the chief suspect.

Later in the day, a report of a man "acting suspiciously" sent a posse barreling to Timmonsville, S. C., 20 miles away.

Carney, a fugitive from Wilson County, N. C., prison camp, is wanted in the grisly double-murder of 15-year-old Betty Clair Cain and her date, Harvey B. Allen, 22, of Latta, S. C.

FOUR HELD

Four other persons are being held. Authorities would not identify them publicly except to say two are Negroes and two are white. Police said "some are held as material witnesses and some as accessories after the fact."

One officer said opinion is divided "about 50-50" as to whether the murders were committed by one person or more than one.

The young couple disappeared last Sunday after going out on a date. The next day Allen's car, its trunk bloody and its windows shattered, was found abandoned in Pamplico.

Monday night, the headless body of the attractive high school co-ed was found in a shallow grave on a bluff overlooking the Pee Dee river three miles from town.

Part of her clothing was missing. Authorities speculated her head had been severed with a shovel or dull knife.

BODY, HEAD FOUND

Wednesday night, the missing head and Allen's body was found in an abandoned well. For the first time, authorities learned that both had been shot to death. Both had been shot in the head, apparently with a .38 caliber weapon at close range.

Carney became the chief suspect Thursday morning when it was learned he was allegedly in the vicinity of the murder scene Sunday evening, was armed with a .38 caliber revolver and had disappeared from his farm home.

State and county officers went to Tarboro, N. C., on a tip that Page—the name Carney used at Pamplico—had gone there, his former home. That lead failed to develop and the search returned to the Pamplico area.

BYRNES OFFERS $1,000

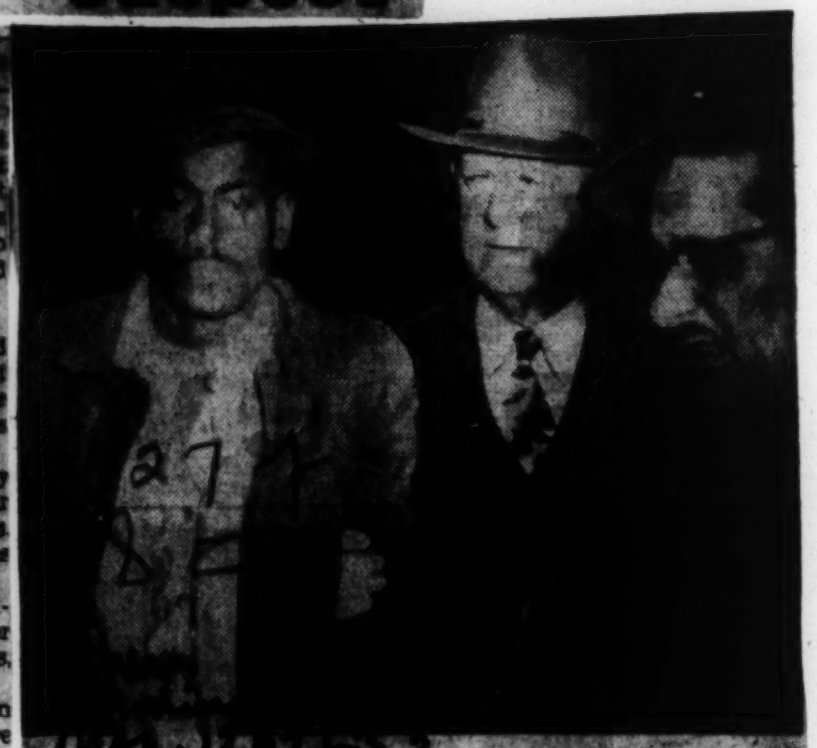
Gov. James F. Byrnes announced the state would pay a reward of $1,000 for evidence to convict the slayer, while the Charleston News and Courier offered $500.

In Pamplico residents carefully locked their doors and kept their women and children off the streets. Lights burned in many homes throughout the night.

Mayor C. B. Pebbles, who estimated there were 10 citizens for every police officer in the posses, said Saturday:

"If anything, people are even more upset now than they were earlier in the week."

Funeral services were held Friday for Allen, a veteran of the Korean fighting. Miss Cain was buried on Wednesday.



Killer suspect caged—Raymond Carney, left, was placed in a cell yesterday in the state prison at Columbia, S. C., after being captured by a party of hunters. He was charged with the slaying of a 15-year-old girl and a 22-year-old boy at Pamlico, S. C., two weeks ago at a lover's lane trysing place. (Associated Press wirephoto.)

Confessed lover's lane slayer facing early trial in S. C.

COLUMBIA, S. C., Dec. 21—(AP)—An early murder trial was in prospect today for scar-faced Raymond Carney who officers say admitted the lover's lane slaying of a 15-year-old girl and her boy-friend two weeks ago. The girl's head was cut off.

Carney, a Negro escaped convict from North Carolina, was quoted by Sheriff John Hanna as saying he only planned to rob the couple but became panicky and started shooting when the girl screamed and her companion lunged at him.

Pretty Betty Cain, Pamplico High School student, and Henry Allen, 22, of Latta, were killed Dec. 6. Her body—the head missing—was found the next day in a shallow grave on the banks of a river.

TWO DAYS later her head and Allen's body were found in an abandoned well in the same area.

Carney, according to Hanna, cut off Miss Cain's head with a knife to try to destroy evidence of a bullet hole and also planned to cut off Allen's head but "lost my nerve."

Carney was captured near Johnsonville by a trio of hunters Saturday. He first was taken to the small Florence County community's jail, where he made an unsuccessful escape attempt, Hanna said.

A short while later a crowd began forming around the jail. Gov. James F. Byrnes then ordered him transferred to the state penitentiary at Columbia.

Carney, 38, was charged with murder after making a verbal statement to authorities. Hanna said Carney probably will be returned to Florence the first week in January for court action.

271 1953

TEXAS

8612

Blonde matron killed—

Angry posse r
seeking nude rape-slayer

DALLAS, Tex. Oct. 1—(AP)—A posse of about 400 angry Dallas residents, incensed by a series of attacks on white women by a nude prowler, joined police today in a search for the killer of a young mother.

The rape-slaying last night of Mrs. H. C. Parker, 29, attractive blone dime store clerk, climaxed a series of attacks on white women by a prowler who has terrified Dallas for months.

Mrs. Parker was fatally attacked [illegible] her home.

Although reinforced police patrols and the angry citizens combed through the night in search of the killer, police felt the extra patrols in the crowded multi-residential area around Lemmon Avenue and Reverchon Park would be relaxed today.

An elderly woman was thrown to the pavement by a young man in what police called a robbery attempt. The woman's screams attracted nearby plainclothesmen and the assailant was arrested by the [illegible].

Police Sgt. Tom [illegible] said he did not believe the man arrested had anything to do with Mrs. Parker's death.

The second attack occurred within blocks of the place where Mrs. Parker was attacked on busy Lemmon Avenue, thoroughfare leading to Dallas' Municipal Airport downtown.

AS POLICE RECEIVED scores of calls from panicky citizens each night, Police Chief Carl Hanssen warned citizens to be careful of their aim.

Husbands dug old six-shooters and Army weapons out of trunks and closets. Women slept fitfully with lights on and rifles by their beds. Bird guns were loaded with buckshot.

Mrs. Parker, wife of a tubercular patient who has been hospitalized three years, [illegible] she finished work at a Dallas dime store in the Walnut Hills shopping center not far from the Dallas municipal airport.

She followed her nightly routine of walking across a crowded highway to a bus stop.

While waiting for her bus, she told police, a man grabbed her and forced her under a bridge. It was there she was attacked and repeatedly slashed. She dragged herself up the embankment and to the street where she collapsed.

A passing motorist, W. H. Clarkson, found her, took her to the airport and called police.

Officers W. M. McGee and J. Gallagher said Mrs. Parker described her assailant as a stocky Negro dressed in a white T-shirt and khaki trousers. Hospital attendants confirmed that Mrs. Parker was raped shortly before her death.

Mrs. T. W. McKee, who lives in the other half of Mrs. Parker's duplex home, said she had cautioned the attractive woman to be careful as reports of the prowler had increased.

Early yesterday, a prowler-conscious North Dallas resident grabbed a shotgun and fired through a window screen at a neighbor he thought was a prowler. The neighbor was searching for his son.

Early Tuesday morning, 16 squads of patrolmen and detectives had tramped through Reverchon Park following an appearance of the prowler who sometimes wears striped shorts, at other times appears in bedrooms naked.

Mrs. R. T. Griffin, night nurse at Bradford Memorial Hospital, said she was in the office at the front of the building and saw the Negro looking in the window. A porch light, she said, revealed that he was unclothed.

"I screamed and the man ran," she said.

Other nurses said they saw the man at the side of the building later.

TUESDAY NIGHT, a 20-year-old stenographer told newsmen, she looked up from writing a letter to see a Negro man looking into her window. She ran into another room for her stepfather and the Negro escaped.

Dallas has had 18 rapes of white women by Negroes in 18 months. A few weeks ago the rapes increased to three in as many weeks. Several times the nude prowler has been scared [illegible]

[illegible] was cut by the knife wielding [illegible]

8622

Taxi Fleet Owner Denies Attack Guilt

Police Had To Rush Suspect To Safety From Lynch Mob

By REGINUS WELLS

WYTHEVILLE, Va. — "I've got to tell them that I'm not guilty. I can't say any more right now, but I'm not guilty . . ."

Portly Willard G. Austin, wealthy taxicab company owner, who was rescued from a lynch mob last Monday by swift action of state and county police, shifted uneasily as he talked with me.

He had just been indicted for criminal assault on a white woman—a charge which often brings the death penalty for colored man in Virginia.

Standing by as I talked with Mr. Austin in an anteroom of the courthouse, was Deputy Sheriff B. F. Wright, who had custody of the defendant.

Arrested In Cab

Austin was arrested 5:30 a.m., Tuesday, as he sat behind the wheel of one of his cabs parked near the Greyhound Bus Terminal here. Sheriff Sutherland and Deputy Sheriff Swayz, who made the arrest, said Austin was asleep when they approached.

Widely known in Wythe County, where he had prospered as owner of a fleet of cabs, Mr. Austin is accused by a white woman who lives on Washington st here. The defendant lives on the same street.

The woman involved is the mother of five children. She told police that she had been in Charlottesville for the past three weeks, undergoing treatment at the University hospital.

Kidnapped, Woman Says

She said that she returned to Wytheville Monday night and asked to be taken to her home in a taxi driven by Austin. Washington st., is four blocks from the bus station.

The woman said Austin refused to take her home. She said that he drove to the Old Stage rd., about six miles west of Wytheville, and while there he attacked her.

She said that after the attack she climbed a fence and made her way to the home of a Mr. and Mrs. Sharitz, who took her to a nearby filing station where police were called.

Mob Gathered

Word of the alleged attack spreaded like wildfire through this mountain town and when Austin was brought up for a hearing, Tuesday, an angry mob gathered in front of the courthouse.

The hearing was called off and heavily-armed state troopers and county officers formed a convoy and raced 23 miles to Pulaski where Austin was placed in jail.

Meanwhile, rumors spread of some extenuating circumstances surrounding the alleged attack. When I visited Wytheville, tension had subsided. I talked with a middle-aged white man who stood in the court house corridor. He summed it up this way:

"Yep, they were getting ready to lynch that boy all right. But now that they know the facts, nobody cares any more."

Strongly Denies Guilt

He evaded further questions and refused to tell any of the "facts" referred to.

However, I learned from other sources that Austin met the bus that night because he had received a letter from Charlottesville, instructing him to do so.

But Austin declined to comment, except to say that he was not guilty.

Austin is operator of Green Cabs. He said he once owned 12 cabs, but recently reduced the number to four. He has white drivers for the cabs, and occasionally drives one himself.

He has been in the taxi business since 1935 and also owns a garage in Wytheville. Ironically, his cabs do not carry colored passengers. Mr. Austin also had a white girl working in his office.

Cabs' Operation Halted

His cabs were not operating when I arrived here. Mr. Austin said that his insurance had been cancelled when he was arrested and he could not run the cars without insurance.

He has two cabs stands, one at the Greyhound station and another on Main st.

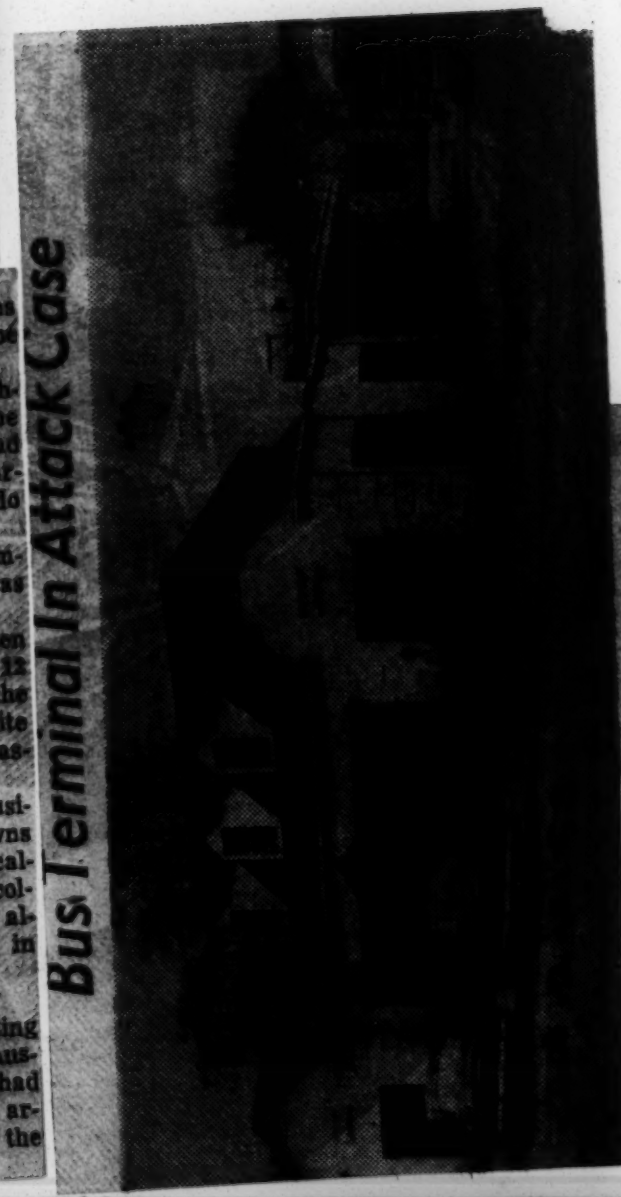
Austin is scheduled to stand trial on Feb. 25. There was also a persistent rumor that the charge against Austin was the result of competition in the taxicab business of Wytheville.

Accused Cabman

Willard G. Austin, Wythesville, Va., taxicab operator accused of criminally attacking a white woman, strides to the lock-up of Pulaski, Va. jail where he was taken for safe keeping when mob violence threatened in Wytheville. (Photo By Wells)

Court House Mob Surrounded

A mob of 300 persons gathered before this court house in Wytheville when Willard G. Austin, taxicab operator, was scheduled for a hearing on a charge of criminally attacking a white woman. Heavily-armed State troopers whisked the suspect to Pulaski jail, 23 miles away.



This is the Greyhound Bus terminal in Wytheville where a white woman said she boarded a cab last Monday night and was assaulted by the cab driver, whom she identified as Willard G. Austin. Austin operated a fleet of cabs with offices at the station.

Bus Terminal In Attack Case